Daily Report

Latin America

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Cerezo Says C.A. Summit Set for 12-15 Nov

PA2409143488 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo said yesterday that he returned satisfied from his Central American tour because he found the other presidents are aware of the need for a summit. His statements came after returning to Guatemala following a successful 48-hour tour of the area. Cerezo explained that his tour was successful because it continued efforts to achieve a firm, lasting peace in Central America in accordance with the Esquipulas II agreement, signed in Guatemala on 7 August 1987.

Cerezo described his talks with Presidents Jose Napoleon Duarte of El Salvador, Dr Oscar Arias Sanchez of Costa Rica, Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra of Nicaragua, and Jose Azcona Hoyo of Honduras as fruitful. They all agreed that the presidential summit should take place in El Salvador between 12 and 15 November.

Cerezo added that although the agenda for the presidential summit will be set by the Central American foreign ministers at the upcoming UN session in New York, the presidential summit will discuss the ratification and creation of a Central American parliament, the national reconciliation processes, solutions to bilateral problems, and the procedures to reactivate the International Verification and Follow-up Commission of the Esquipulas II agreement. [passage omitted]

Cuba

President Castro Addresses, Decorates Athletes

FL2409162488 Havana Cubavision Television in Spanish 0130 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Remarks by President Fidel Castro at ceremony in Havana's Palace of Conventions to present the Sports Honor Medal to 173 outstanding athletes; date not given—recorded]

[Text] We must not think of individual triumphs; we must think of collective triumphs—the triumphs of the people, the fatherland. Each one of your medals belongs to the 10 million Cuban citizens. Each one of your medals belongs to the history of our country. Each one of your medals belongs to the present and future generations. Those medals pinned on your chests are as if planted in the heart of the people. You have become, you are examples for our pioneers, for our youth, for our adolescents. You will be examples for future generations. What do we want our future athletes to be like? We say today, justifiably, with all our reason and our conviction: We want them to be like you.

Now, my speaking was not on the agenda but I can't leave here without saying a few words to you. This is not the first time we met, we met before and after the Pan-American Games. A few days ago I had the great satisfaction, the privilege, of getting together with the comrades of the baseball team.

I feel this is a historic moment, not only because we have broken a record of the most medals awarded in the shortest time. [laughter] I was asking, a hundred and what?

It is a historic moment from the point of view of morale, honor, dignity, the most profound patriotism and internationalism. This is a ceremony and an event that history will remember. We had already said it. We were not surprised by the need to be absent from these so-called Olympic Games. Perhaps you will understand us better if I were to report that the Olympic Games had been organized at the Guantanamo Naval Base. We would not like it. In fact, we would not like our brothers to attend those Olympics. In this case, there really is no difference. It was really a trick; something manipulated, organized, orchestrated to hold the games precisely there in that place, when there were some many other places in the world where the Olympics could be held with honor.

It is one of the countries where the people suffer the most repression, violence, oppression. You have seen it. Our people have seen it. The whole world sees it on television. It is a repressive regime. It is a divided country. It is a country in which hundreds of thousands died in a war not many years ago.

There is no doubt that it was a political maneuver to try to perpetuate the division of that country and the occupation of part of its territory. Imagine what kind of Olympics they are. They are being held there in the shelter of the Yankee battleships, the Yankee Air Force, the Yankee soldiers, and tens and of thousands of repressive policemen. It is not Yankee soldiers in the United States; it is Yankee soldiers over there, thousands and thousands of miles away.

The least I can say, the most elegant way I can say it, is that participating in an Olympics under those conditions is no honor.

The people of the DPRK are an extraordinary people; a people with the same characteristics as ours. They are energetic, hardworking, disciplined, and enthusiastic. I know them. I have had the opportunity to know them. I can assure you that they possess extraordinary qualities and virtues. How could we leave them to stand alone? How could we do that in circumstances such as these? Brothers do not forsake each other. Friends do not forsake each other. I imagine that in the midst of the pain they feel when they see everybody over there, our stance must be a big boost, a big moral compensation for them.

In this case, it was not a matter of the absence of a country without a sports history, without sports talent. It was without a doubt, the absence of a country with the most sports talent and most extraordinary sports history among all the Third World countries. You know, as a matter of fact, that we won as many gold medals at the Pan-American Games as all the other Latin American countries put together.

Our people's act of solidarity with the people of the DPRK is, of course, important. It's symbolism is great.

And it is not that we failed to make an effort to find a solution to the problem when it came up. The problem came up and we made enormous efforts to find a solution. The only solution was to share the Olympics. Not even half and half, but to really share them. There are extraordinary facilities in the DPRK to hold events of this kind. There are no tear gas, clubs, or policemen repressing the people. The people in the DPRK are united.

I feel much would have been gained by it—they would have become true Olympics—if the idea of sharing the games had prospered. The Olympic Committee accepted...[shifts thought] I talked to Samaranch [Jose Antonio Samaranch, head of the International Olympics Committee]. I talked to a lot of people in the committee. I also talked to the officials of the Pan-American Sports Organization. They agreed in principle to go ahead with some of the sports. But, it was a joke, two or three sport events. They did not really take the idea seriously. They did not make a determined effort by which all countries might have participated and by which it might have been

honorable for any country to participate in these Olympics. Egoism, a reactionary spirit, and political doings prevailed to prevent a solution of this nature.

It's now been two Olympics that we have not attended for security reasons Who said this? When they didn't want us to go to Puerto Rico we took a boat and sat there at the limits of the territorial waters and we told them that if they didn't let us participate we would get there swimming, in a boat, or in a lifejacket. I imagine that the water polo players and the swimmers would have gotten there first. Even the baseball players would have gotten there. Perhaps there are those who don't know how to swim, but I doubt that very much.

Anyway, there we were in Santo Domingo [as heard] in the "Cerro Pelado" boat, which becme very famous. We said, let's go and we'll actually swim there.

When have we ever asked about security? We have always participated anywhere in the United States. However, this is not a matter of security.

In the past Olympics, the socialist countries made a decision. We learned about it from the press. We were discussing what type of common policy we would adopt and we learned via the news agency cables that the socialist countries had decided not to participate in the Los Angeles Olympics for security reasons. How could we argue against security reasons if that was never an issue that prevented us from participating? However, a very powerful factor emerged—solidarity.

It truly would have been very ugly under those circumstances in which socialists countries weren't attending the Los Angeles Olympics, if we had participated. As I then told sports leaders and the leaders of the Pan American Games and U.S. sports leaders, including those who came to talk to us: It's not because of security reasons that we did not attend. It's because of reasons of solidarity with socialist countries.

Now there are more reasons. It is an act of solidarity with a brother country, such as the DPRK. It is because of a reason as powerful as solidarity, for reasons of dignity. In the same way that it would have looked bad for us to go to Los Angeles, forgetting the rest of the socialist countries, I say it looks bad that all other socialist countries [chuckles] to have gone to Seoul forgetting the brother revolutionary and socialist country of Korea. I say this very clearly and frankly. History will be in charge of recording these events.

Who loves sports more than we do? What country has done more for sports than Cuba? Which country has not only done but is doing and will continue to do more for sports than Cuba? It hurts us that these things happen.

Surely, if we would have been able to participate we would have brought back a few medals. Nobody doubts it. But I believe our honor would have suffered deeply. We would have not felt very happy. We would have felt disloyal. I do not know what we could say if a young Korean worker approached us and asked: What kind of revolutionary are you when you went to that country occupied by Yankees, to participate in an event under the protection of Yankee cannons and soldiers? We would have not been able to lift our heads. Some might be able to lift their heads because they can stretch their necks and even engage in sports [y hacer ejercicio incluso]. But heads cannot always be held high honorably. We have the right today to lift our heads with honor. [applause]

I believe that very few times outstanding athletes such as you have ever received a higher decoration, a more valuable medal, and purer gold. Someday when speaking of sports we are asked how many medals we won in the so-called—which ones are they?—in the so-called 24th Olympiads, we can say we won 173 gold medals in those so-called 24th Olympiads. [applause]

We could say even more. We were the only ones who won gold medals because mud is not gold. I believe that under those conditions, when it is believed that gold is being won; from the point of view of morale, honor, dignity, principles, and the rights of the peoples which we cannot stop representing, we would have been winning mud instead of gold. I am certain that you will have one more reason to feel proud as athletes, as patriots, and as revolutionaries inasmuch as the athlete can never be at odds with the patriot and revolutionary. This is what has brought us up to here. This is what has taken us to a top place; the honor, dignity, valor, and courage with which our athletes struggle. It was with this honor and dignity that the comrades sent the telegram when they won the gold medal in weights when they were competing against the traitor.

I read a report that says that a man plans to win a gold medal. Perhaps he will. The only way he can win a gold medal is if there are no Cuban weight lifters present. Because if there was a Cuban weight lifter there he cannot win. Disloyalty and lack of principles do not prevail over the honor and courage of a patriot and a revolutionary. Our athletes take with them something more than physical training. They carry something inside. It is what our baseball players had inside when twice in the ninth inning they did what it appeared to be impossible; leave the Yankees behind; twice in a few days. They did it with the valor, courage, dignity, honor, and revolutionary stamina.

We only use one drug. Sotomayor was saying no drugs. I say there is one very important drug, revolutionary stamina, revolutionary pride, revolutionary honor. This is our drug. It helps us make supreme efforts and helps us to carry out great feats. If not how could have Sotomayor been able to jump so high? I have stood next to a wall and done like this, and have looked up to see how high was Sotomayor's jump. It is incredible.

Our boxers, our baseball players—we struggled so much for baseball to be included in the Olympics. If other sports—no sport is bad—but many other sports were included. A sport such as this one did not form part of the Olympics. But we will have our turn to give a good beating there. If it is necessary it will do so from the first inning. We won't wait for the ninth [laughter] even though it may be much more exciting.

Those factors, those principles have an influence. The future of sports in our country is terrific. We are going to do more than what we have already done. We are already doing more. We are taking it to the masses. Because sports—this is the merit our athletes have. They encourage all citizens, they encourage all citizens [repeats] to practice sports. Sports is an instrument of health, well-being, and happiness for citizens. We want all citizens to engage in physical exercise and sports. You can see already tens of thousands of grandparents participating in sports.

The other day, during the race, hundreds of grandparents also formed their contingent and took off. It was a truly marvelous sight. It was incredible. I looked at the crowd that took off and they were reaching the avenue, they had gone up the hill at the avenue that goes by the Revolution Square. It was an impressive sight. Thousands of people were running. Many more were waiting. There was still a big crowd at the square when those people were almost reaching 23d Street.

We plan to make a big effort. I already told you that the Pan-American installations are going to be built with or without Pan-American Games. Some already are being built. Ground breaking has already begun for what are going to be big projects such as the Olympic stadium, the velodrome, swimming pool complexes, multiple-use rooms, tennis courts, rowing canals, in sum, everything. All the Olympic installations—yes, they can even be used for an Olympic games—all the installations for the Pan-American Games are being worked on and are going to be built. What we want is for our people to have those installations, for our athletes to have those installations so that they can enjoy them.

There may be attempts to take them away from us but I doubt they will be successful. This does not scare us. No, we are not going to be afraid of the threats that they are going to take away the Pan-American Games from us. They were already taken from us once. But now we have been designated officially to host them. We have adopted a position. We have not violated any rules. We did not get enrolled. They set a deadline of many months in advance to get enrolled. We simply let the deadline expire. We did not let ourselves be pressured by the deadline.

At the end, at the last minute they said: We will admit them if they come the day before the Olympics. Indeed, had the athletes arrived a day before they would have been admitted. It was a big deal. But we didn't get there the day before, the same day, or the day after. We have not violated any rules. We did not talk to anyone advising them not to go. It can not be said that we violated any of the famous rules. We simply did not get enrolled and did not participate.

All Latin American sports leaders know about the efforts we made to find the solution to this complex and delicate problem. They know it well. I doubt that they will find any argument to attempt to leave us without the Pan-American Games. This does not scare us a bit. We are going to make all the installations.

Pan-American Games can last 15 days but the sports installations can last 100 years, if they are properly maintained and are cared for. This is what matters to us, that our people have installations all the time and that they have more and more sports installations.

The baseball comrades took advantage of the meeting we held the other day to announce that they needed an installation. We started to analyze it. They needed a training installation. If they go to a stadium, there is only one field. Those kinds of installations need at least two or three fields and other facilities. The baseball comrades were saying, and they were right—baseball players, trainers, and coaches—that if we did not do this we run the risk of staying behind because the Japanese, Italians, Yankees, everyone already has this type of installation. I promised them that I would fight so that they would have that installation. We really did not know about the fact that they have had a project, a plan for a long time. I asked were should it be put. I suggested a place. These plans need to be worked on and the conditions created so that after the struggle we will have to get this field, then we can begin building it as soon as possible. This is very good.

It is true that sports is reaching incredible technical levels and facilities are needed for this. Our country is not a rich one but our people are very hard working and we can get all these installations through our own work.

Unfortunately, many Third World countries do not have sports facilities. That is one of the things we brought up, even at the time of the Los Angeles Olympics. A few gentlemen there earned tens of millions of dollars. In fact, the U.S. Government collected tens of millions of dollars. What were they going to use that money not belonging to private firms for? The U.S. was going to build facilities in the United States. We said that the money collected in the Olympics should be used to build sports facilities in the Third World countries.

The Olympics nowadays is an event for rich countries, just like sports have become activities of rich countries. How many medals did the Third World win in the Olympics? Very few. These countries have no sports facilities, no trainers. They don't have food for the people! A high percentage of the children grow up

stunted because of malnutrition. If they have no facilities, no trainers, not even enough food, how can they produce champions? How can they win gold medals at the Olympics? Many of those Olympiads are opportunities for some very rich, very powerful countries to show off their wealth. The Olympics has almost become an instrument to establish the theory of a superior race, or nations superiority to others, or a certain peoples superiority to others.

I am convinced that if the people of the Third World possessed the technology, the facilities, and the food, these powerful and rich countries would win very few medals in the Olympics. Very few! If the countries of Latin America, Africa, and Asia could participate on equal conditions—our country is an exception in this, not because we are rich but because the revolution assigned the resources we had and because we devoted a lot of effort to sports.

We are an exception. We have more than 20,000 physical education and sports teachers. More than 20,000. How many does the Dominican Republic have? How many does Haiti have? How many does Colombia have? How many in Peru, Ecuador, and the rest of the countries?

We have built thousands, tens of thousands of sports facilities of one kind or another. We have improved our population's health and nutrition conditions. We have a healthy people. It would be very hard to find an underfed child in our country. Very difficult! It might be because the parents neglected him completely. However, no underfed children come to our hospitals. Our doctors know of practically no underfed children in our country, which they find in large numbers when they go elsewhere.

Because of our revolution, our country has become an exception in relation to all the other Third World countries. That's why we are a force that resists, that puts up resistance. We are a force that competes with the Yankees on an equal footing, despite the fact that they have 240 million inhabitants and we have only slightly more than 10. The number of medals per capita won by Cuba in the Olympics exceeds the number won by the United States many times over.

Unfortunately, thousands of millions of human beings who live in the Third World have no chance to practice sports. They lack the conditions and trainers. When we started, we were in the same situation. Now we have all these resources, all this experience. We have very expert people. We have more than 20,000 physical education and sports teachers, many facilities. However, we do not stop at that. We will keep at it. We will keep at it. [repeats himself]

Cuba enjoys international prestige. This stance adopted by Cuba makes others respect Cuba because it is a country that has honor, dignity, and principles. Those who thought we were satellites or anything of the sort have had to forget that for quite a while now. We are a sovereign, free country; a very sovereign country, the most sovereign country. We make our own analyses and make our own decisions. Our country is respected in sports terms, in political terms, in revolutionary terms. It is a country that fights. It is a country that is not easily made the victim of an arbitrary action or an injustice.

That is why I tell you that sports has a big future, a big future. We are building the facilities and I hope we will be able to use them at the Pan- American Games, in the next Pan-American Games, or in any other games in this century or any other century. That does not worry us.

The more time that passes; the more medals we'll win. We certainly will win more medals in the next Pan-American games than we did in the previous games even though it may be difficult because there are several countries that have resources—such as Argentina, Brazil, and others, the large countries—that are constantly making a greater effort in sports. We are assuming that we'll have rivals among the Latin Americans which will require us to constantly make a greater effort. I am sure, however, that in the next Pan-American games, we'll win more medals than we did previously. That's the way it will be.

If one day, all Latin American countries have the same opportunity as Cuba, then it will be more difficult to win medals because then we'll have to lead in a Pan-American game that has 700 million inhabitants. The day that all those people, especially the Latin Americans, have the same conditions that Cuba does, then we'll have to fight for the medal [chuckles] and the number of medals we'll win will decrease. However, as long as things continue as they are, and I add, unfortunately; as long as situations such as misery and exploitation continue for the Latin American people,—which is the result of the pillage done by the large countries, the rich countries—then we'll continue to win more medals each time. As long as we compete primarily with the United States, we will dispute each medal in each location. That's why I'm sure that sports has a brilliant future in our country. I'm sure that our people will feel that the medals you've received are their own.

We shouldn't think about individual triumphs. We must think about collective triumphs, the triumph of the people, the triumphs of the nation. Each of your medals belongs to the 10 million citizens. Each of your medals belongs to the history of our country. Each of your medals belongs to the present and the future generations. It is as if those medals that you have received on your chests were planted in the hearts of the people. You become... [corrects himself] You are examples for our pioneers, for our youth, for our adolescents, and will be examples for the future generations. How do we want our future athletes to be? We say today with all our might, with all our reason, with our full conviction: We want them to be like you. Fatherland or death. We shall win! [applause]

Alternate Congress Against World Bank-IMF Opens
FL2409124188 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] The reading of a message from President Fidel Castro opened the alternate congress denouncing the joint World Bank-IMF annual meeting. Fidel's greeting was read at the West Berlin Technical University's conference room by Cuban economist Eduardo del Llano, who is heading our country's delegation to the important meeting.

In his message, Fidel describes the congress as historic, not only because of the place and time in which it is being held but also because of the important subjects included on its agenda. The chief of the Cuban revolution reiterated in his letter that the foreign debt is unpayable and uncollectable. Over 800 people attending the conference agreed with his idea.

UN Human Rights Group, Interior Minister Meet
FL2309123388 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] The delegation from the UN Human Rights Commission met yesterday in Havana with Division General Jose Abrantes, interior minister. The group is headed by Alioune Sene from Senegal, who has been in Cuba since last Friday at the invitation of the revolutionary government.

Acosta Comments on CDR's 28th Anniversary
FL2309165288 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2324 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Interview with Armando Acosta Cordero, coordinator of the National Bureau and Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, CDR, and member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State, by Felix Fernando Garrido at Havana's CDR offices on 22 September—live]

[Text] [Garrido] We are here to discuss the activities which will mark the 28th anniversary of the CDR and how the effort of the people of the [word indistinct] in their role to truly take the position in accordance with the CDR combative spirit of 28 years of work. Welcome to "Exclusivo" Comrade Acosta.

[Acosta] Comrades, I take the opportunity Radio Rebelde's "Exclusivo" program gives, at the request of Comrades Daniel [Torres, "Exclusivo" host] and Garrido, to say a few words regarding 28 September. This date marks 28 years since the founding of the CDR. I take the opportunity, through this "Exclusivo" program, to greet and congratulate all the men and women of our nation and members of this mass organization who, throughout the country, from Punta de Maisi to Cabo San Antonio, have been working very hard to fulfill the tasks of our revolution, the tasks of the fatherland, the tasks which helped build a socialist society.

It is truly an important occasion because, in addition to marking 28 September, we are involved in the struggle the entire Cuban nation is involved in in order to make our country's program, our revolution's program, a reality. It is the struggle to achieve the society that all revolutionaries dreamed of: a society of fraternity, brotherhood, equality, law, and respect for our people. This 28 September will be a happy celebration. It will reflect the way our Cuban people are. It will be a celebration of happiness and joy because what we are celebrating is part of the victorious path of the first socialist revolution on the American Continent.

The smiles, joy, and enthusiasm of our people will begin on 27 September as they wait for the 28th to celebrate this extraordinary event when, from the presidential palace 28 years ago, our commander in chief made a call for all Cuban people to get organized in the CDR to stop the work of terrorists, aggressors, and enemies of the revolution who wanted to stop the consolidation and victory of Latin America's first socialist revolution.

[Garrido] Comrade coordinator, in this CDR effort there have been many obstacles. There has been some improper behavior, and some social indiscipline. I would like for you to refer to this and explain how the organization has been working in guiding our CDR masses, our CDR leadership, and all the people to combat it effectively and support all the measures of the party, the government, and the National Revolutionary Police [PNR] to eliminate these behaviors and deal with the problems.

[Acosta] This 28 September will find us struggling to eliminate all expressions of social indiscipline and, frankly in some cases, of true criminal behaviors which attempt to alter public order, show disrespect and lack of consideration toward our people. This 28 September will find us engrossed in the struggle against these behaviors, which are not proper of the social system we are building, of the new society we are building. I want to express through this program that we are determined not stop the struggle until we put an end to any kind of activity which alters social order, any social indiscipline. We want to stop criminals who want to intimidate the Cuban people. This is how we are going to get to 28 September. We are discussing the party guidance throughout our entire country, with our provincial leadership, with our municipalities, in each zone, with the CDR's in each block.

Precisely at this time, when our GRANMA newspaper published the analysis made by the PCC Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat of the situation of priorities and perspectives of the country's economic and social development—this is a document that provides us with the theoretical and scientific elements to continue to struggle in this direction. The document precisely urges the CDR to respond without exaggeration, with moderation, but with firmness. But we must give a resolute response to all those who do not want to

comply with the established order in our country, the discipline of our country, the respect one has to have in our country. We are supported by the exceptional forces of our revolution. It is true that these are expressions of small antisocial groups and it is true that it is seen more often in the capital of the country. But the CDR's, in response to the party's call, in response to this call, will not stop one minute until these forces are eliminated with the help of the masses, using the powerful support our people gave to our revolution, to our cause, and our ideals.

[Garrido] Comrade coordinator, I would like to comment on a situation. Sometimes a state official, a comrade from the PNR or FAR, or a simple citizen attempts to confront one of these antisocial behaviors but does not find the total support of the rest of the people in the group accompanying him at the time. How can this situation be handled? How has the CDR dealt with this situation?

[Acosta] Well, this could happen but it really should not happen. I have come to the following conclusion: 85 percent of the men and women of Havana are CDR members. We have a powerful party, we have a powerful communist youth organization, we have a fantastic Cuban women's organization. If there are problems in a bus, or at the bus stop, or terminal, wherever these behaviors take place, the great majority of the people are revolutionary people. No revolutionary person can see this kind of behavior without responding with the energy they need to respond with. If this has been happening, our CDR's in each block and municipality will be discussing it in order to respond to it with the energy that our people have always responded with, to respond with the energy our youths have always responded with. These behaviors are incompatible with our revolution. These attitudes have nothing to do with our glorious Cuban youth, our working class, our people who have proven themselves in thousands of battles in the defense of the revolution, the fatherland, and socialism.

Dominican Republic

Anti-Namphy Demonstration in Santo Domingo

FL2309220588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Many Dominican journalists, among them those of the press center of the television station where Dominican journalist and cameraman Carlos Grullon used to work, and the members of the committee for the people's struggle this morning demonstrated in front of the Concord Hotel, where former President Namphy has been staying since Sunday. They are demanding the expulsion of Nampy from the Dominican Republic. They say Namphy is connected with the murder of their colleague, who was killed during the 29 November massacre in Haiti. Dominican police are assigned around the hotel to prevent any incidents. Up to now there have been none.

The director of the television station for which Carlos Grullon (?used to work) feels that the Dominican Republic should not provide asylum for Namphy, a man whose involvement in the 29 November massacre is so obvious. Pressure on the Joaquin Balaguer government not to grant the former Haitian president asylum is growing hour by hour in the Dominican Republic. Nevertheless, according to a Dominican journalist, the former Haitian leader has not as yet officially asked for political asylum from the Dominican Republic. According to the Dominican minister of Foreign Affairs ad interim, Namphy has, for the moment, the status of visitor in a neighboring country.

As regards former Port-au-Prince Mayor Franck Romain, he is reportedly still under asylum in the Dominican Embassy in Port-au-Prince with his family, said a Radio Mil Internacional journalist contacted at noon today by phone. Here is an excerpt of our conversation with this journalist.

[Begin recording in Spanish] [Radio Mil reporter] Franck Romain, his wife, and his two children were under asylum at the Dominican Embassy over there in Port-au-Prince, and they are in the process of getting arranging safe conduct, so that they can enter the Dominican Republic, like Namphy. But of course these formalities are dependent on the new Haitian Government.

[Metrople reporter] Do you think that if the new Haitian Government asks the Dominican Government to send Franck Romain or General Romain back to Haiti, or to expel them from the Dominican Republic, the Dominican Government will comply with its request?

[Radio Mil reporter] I think that both governments because of the fact that we share the same island, are afraid of having some kind of falling out at the international level. Because of the problems that such an international falling out might entail, both sides are being very cautious, let us say—very conservative—about taking one position or another.

In any case, should the Haitian Government request this, we will have to wait and see what the Dominican Foreign Ministry—the Dominican Government, President Balaguer—decides. It is sort of impossible for us to predict what the government might do.

In any case, I don't think it is to Namphy's advantage, either, to remain here in the Dominican Republic because the pressure against him from the popular organizations, the labor unions, the political parties, and from broad sectors of the press is increasingly heavy. [end recording]

That was the journalist from Radio Mil, answering our question as to where the former mayor of Port-au-Prince is at present. He said that Franck Romain, his wife, and

two of his sons are currently at the Dominican Embassy in Port-au-Prince, waiting to be granted safe conduct by the Prosper Avril government. [passage omitted]

The journalist added that he thinks the pressure being exerted by the democratic forces in the Dominican Republic will—in his opinion—prevent Joaquin Balaguer, prevent the Dominican Government, from granting these two former Haitian political figures, Romain and Namphy, political asylum, but that it all dependeds on the Haitian and Dominican Governments.

Government Chided for Tolerating Speculation

FL2309161188 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1017 GMT 23 Sep 88

["Preguntando" commentary]

[Text] How can [words indistinct] that are occurring in the country?

It is imperative that there be an improvement in basic services and adequate alternatives in view of the rising cost of living. There is not enough money to cover the most pressing needs of the vast majority of Dominican families. The lack of water and energy is causing the closure of many national firms. Added to this is the scarcity of goods and speculation that have voraciously descended upon threadbare household budgets.

It is difficult to understand the reasons for the current shortage of different types of sugar—yellow, fine, and refined. No one can explain why cistern trucks are not used to organize an efficient water supply system in areas where the water company has failed. Above all, why do we tolerate the gross speculation? Prices fluctuate between 100 and 200 pesos per delivery.

One must also ask why authorities allow the price of indispensable medications, such as insulin, to go up as much 160 percent above its normal price, as was denounced by Dr (Hurtado Brugal)?

This type of thing is what causes anxiety and tensions that have changed the character of Dominicans.

There are some who reap exaggerated profits from the high prices and scarcity. We hope they will not later regret this.

Liberation Party Presents Hurricane Relief Plan

FL2309154588 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0939 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] The Dominican Liberation Party [PLD] has proposed that the government adopt an emergency plan designed to confront the serious affects of Hurricane Gilbert in the country's rural communities. The 11-point emergency plan was (?announced) by the PLD's Peasant Affairs Secretariat.

The PLD organization said that the hurricane not only caused the loss of human lives; it also caused the loss of different types of crops. It adds that the hurricane also caused considerable damage to important basic projects, such as homes, bridges, irrigation canals, aqueducts, and roads. The PLD organ said that valuable lands were damaged and thousands of people are in danger of contracting illnesses, such as grippe, gastroenteritis, and parasitosis since they are exposed to [word indistinct] and drink contaminated water.

The 11-point emergency plan presented to the government includes the remission of the debts contracted with the Agricultural Bank and other institutions. It also includes a plan to fumigate crops to combat and prevent an outbreak of plagues and diseases. Another point allows for the compensation of crops in all areas affected by Hurricane Gilbert.

Communications Remain Out

FL2309165888 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1024 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] (Polo), Barahona—Three communities of the (Polo) municipal district have been without communications since Hurricane Gilbert passed through the area 2 weeks ago. Area residents say that roads are obstructed by rubble in several spots and this impedes land communications with (Polo) and other communities. The isolated areas are Auta, (Lanzarriba), and Gajos del Sur.

Farmers say that losses in coffee production exceed 60 percent.

(Fran Felix Perreira), who spoke on behalf of the victims, called on authorities to intervene in order to reestablish land communications, which have been obstructed by rubble from the hurricane.

Haiti

'Tacit' Agreement Between Avril, Hebreux

FL2309192988 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Excerpt] The Secretariat of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH] was visited by the military government's minister of information yesterday, Thursday. After talks between Mr Anthony Virginie St-Pierre, representative of the government, and members of the general staff of Sylvio Claude's political party, the PDCH's Secretariat informs that PDCH President Rev Sylvio Claude has been invited to meet with Lieutenant General Prosper Avril. The PDCH terms this initiative positive and encouraging.

The PDCH, which appears to have accepted this invitation to engage in dialogue with the new government, did not reveal the date this meeting will be held.

We have also learned this morning that Gen Avril and Sergeant Hebreux met with Maurepas Auguste of the Movement for Democratic Unity yesterday.

These initiatives by the military government come some 24 hours after Gen Avril, the new chief of state, met at the National Palace with a seven-member delegation from some diverse organizations that were planning to hold a demonstration Wednesday in support of the Haitian Armed Forces soldiers. This meeting took place Wednesday at the presidential palace. Sgt Joseph Hebreux and Presidential Guard soldiers were also present. After exchanges and discussion among the participants in the meeting, the organizers of the demonstration decided to call off the demonstration and postpone it until a later time.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] The soldiers explained to us that the Army, with the clean-up work the soldiers are doing, cannot ensure the security of the demonstrators because there are diverse criminal, armed civilians and bad military men who have weapons (?and who) have not been rounded up yet. The soldiers are counting on the cooperation of the people, who must organize themselves within order and discipline to buttress the victory of 17 September 1988, so that there is no vile countercoup, as happened on 7 February 1988. [end recording]

It should also be pointed out that there is a tacit agreement outlining the exercise of power between Gen Prosper Avril, president of the military government, and Sgt Joseph Hebreux, the leader of the 17 September movement of sergeants and soldiers who overthrew General Henri Namphy. At least that is what KID [Confederation for Democratic Unity] representative Evans Paul said during a press conference yesterday. Paul observed that neither Gen Prosper Avril nor Sgt Joseph Hebreux ever meet a prominent figure alone. They are both present at all meetings.

Present at the meeting at the palace were Jacques Pascal for ZEL [Students' Affairs]; Jean-Auguste Mesyeux for the Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers; Joseph Pierre-Louis and Evans Paul for KID; and Marcel Mondesir, representative of the young people of St. Jean Bosco Church. [passage omitted]

Avril, Claude Discuss Election Prospects

FL2309214588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 1600 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Sylvio Claude, president of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH], held a press conference this morning on the meeting he had with the head of the military government, Lieutenant General Prosper Avril.

The PDCH prepared a 10-point memorandum to present to Gen Avril. Claude said the points in the memo are related to the requests made by the soldiers to the general. According to what was said this morning, 2 of the points in this 10-point memorandum gave rise to a lot of discussion between the head of the PDCH and the president of the military government.

The first point in the memo is the matter of the deadline for the holding of general elections in Haiti. The PDCH's memo asks that elections be held within 6 months, but the president of the military government says, for his part, that he thinks that they will not be able to organize general elections in Haiti for approximately 2 and ½ years. Also, Sylvio Claude brought up the matter of their setting the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] back up within 3 months of the proclamation of 17 September, but the president of the military government thinks this timetable is a little too short.

The second point over which there was much discussion between Pastor Sylvio Claude and General Avril was the amending of the Constitution of 1987. Pastor Claude reached an agreement over a number of amendments to be made to the Constitution. We had a reporter on the scene. Here is what he recorded for us.

[Begin Claude recording] First of all, he said he thought (?he needed) some 2 or 2 and ½ years to set democracy in place once and for all before holding elections.

I told him that democracy begins with elections. You can't install democracy without going through elections. We argued and argued this point, back and forth. We did not reach a complete agreement [approximately 1 minute power outage] [words indistinct] I told him that 2 years might [shift in thought] you yourself might be of good faith. Great. But those around you, after having acquired a taste for power, might [shift in thought] experience has shown us [shift in thought] I told him that I had no doubts that Namphy, was speaking in good faith when he said he had no political ambitions. However, after promoting people, giving people money, and so forth, and having these people surround him, they might make him see a need for holding on to power. That could happen to you, I told him. And that is why we would like for there to be elections as soon as possible because there is no democracy without elections.

He also accepted the idea of an electoral council organizing the elections. He said to me, outright, that he himself would not organize the elections, but that he felt that the 3 months I was giving him in which to form the CEP was too short.

I said: In order for the people to trust you, in order for us to more or less even feel like believing, feel like accepting that you really want to do something positive [shift in thought] because the way you are receiving me here, with the welcome you are giving me, is the way Namphy received me, too! This is the way he talked to me, too. He was very willing. And yet what he told me was not what

he really had in mind. So you have to do concrete things—things that will convince us that you support the idea of a provisional government—and that you really agree to hold elections.

I told him that I thought it would be better for the CEP to be formed within 3 months in order for the democratic process to begin with the formation of the CEP. And that is what we are going to discuss in future meetings that we are going to have with him, so that the electoral council can be formed within 3 months.

Now, as regards the Constitution, as I told you, they agree to the idea of the Constitution of 1957 [year as heard]. He said that that is what the soldiers are asking and that he cannot ignore this, but that it must be amended. And, as I said, that was the point there was the most discussion over. I told the general: I too think it needs to be amended. [end recording]

This was an account of the meeting held at the National Palace between the PDCH leader with Lt Gen Prosper Avril, president of the military government. The president of the PDCH told us about the points over which there was much discussion between him and the president of the military government: How long before elections are held in Haiti, the formation of a Provisional Electoral Council, and what amendments should be made to the Constitution of 1987.

Just a while ago, we heard Pastor Sylvio Claude say the Constitution of 1957, and we see that it was a very regrettable slip of the tongue that Reverend Claude made.

Further Reportage

FL2409112088 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1700 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Reverend Sylvio C. Claude, leader of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH], and Agronomist Louis Dejoie II, leader of the National Agricultural and Industrial Party, held a press conference at the PDCH headquarters on the Champ de Mars at 1000 on Friday 23 September. The press conference was to inform the public of the results of their meeting with Lieutenant General Prosper Avril, president of the Haitian military government, held at 2000 on Thursday 22 September at Avril's private residence. They said they spent 3 hours talking to President Avril and presented to him the following points.

The president of the Haitian Military Government must declare that the current government is a provisional government.

Second, the head of the military government must promise to pursue the perpetrators of the political crimes decried by the public, and bring them to trial.

Third, he must set up the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] within 3 months and the CEP will say when legislative and presidential elections will be held.

The president of the military government must hand power over to the elected president within 30 days after the elections are held.

The president of the military government must lead the country in accordance with the Constitution of 1987. He must guarantee freedom of expression and assembly and all political parties must be allowed to operate normally.

He must disarm all armed civilians. He must prevent contraband from continuing in Haiti.

There were also several other points that they put before President Avril. Let's listen to Pastor Sylvio C. Claude tell us what Lt Gen Avril told him.

[Begin Claude recording, in progress] ...Pastor, in general, I agree with the document. Everything the document says is what the soldiers are asking for, and he says that is what he intends to do. However, there are two points on which he has reservations. [passage omitted] We did not reach full agreement [on the timetable for elections] because he said he had to contact his cabinet to see what decision could be reached on that point. He agrees that they are essentially a provisional government. We have just not reached agreement on how soon elections can be held. [passage omitted]

He said, ok Reverend; I too want elections, so there can be no disagreement on that. [passage omitted] [end recording]

'Massive Cleanup' Needed Before Elections

FL2309213288 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Mr Evans Paul, an official of the Confederation for Democratic Unity, [KID], noted during a press conference yesterday that neither General Avril nor Sergeant Hebreux ever meet anyone alone and that they are both always present at interviews. [passage omitted]

The participants at the press conference also said the soldiers were not taking the matter of security lightly at all and that they had agreed to (?conserve) their ammunition and not fire without reason.

Evans Paul also said that a vast cleanup had to be carried out before elections could be envisioned. When you live in a pig sty, you don't throw parties, he said.

Finally, Mr Marcel Mondesir, representative of the young people of St. Jean Bosco Church at the press conference, highlighted rumors to the effect that Father Jean Bertrand Aristide, the most politically committed figure in the Catholic Church, had received orders from

his superiors to leave Haiti within 10 days. Mr Mondesir said he couldn't understand how, at a time when the government is authorizing a Canadian priest—Father Rene Poirier—expelled from Haiti by General Namphy to come back to Haiti, the Catholic hierarchy wants to take Father Aristide away from Haiti.

Colonel Paul Cheered by Crowd in Port-au-Prince
FL2309192588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Colonel Jean Claude Paul, commander of the Jean-Jacques Dessalines Batallion—one of the Haitian Army's most powerful units—was greeted with cheers yesterday afternoon by a 200-person group that had assembled in front of the Army General Headquarters in the heart of Port-au-Prince. Col Paul, who had gone to the General Headquarters with Colonel Georges Valcin, the new head of the police, was applauded by the young people present who called out to him, familiarly, "Polo", "Polo."

Smiling and relaxed, the colonel shook hands with his fans.

26 More Officers 'Retired' From Armed Forces
FL2309185088 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] The new ad interim commander in chief of the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] decided to retire 26 more officers.

The following officers have been retired: Colonel Abellard Denis of the Leopard Corps, Col Pierre Nicolas Hyppolite, Col Panestecker Laroch, Col Maurice Constant, Col Roland Guillaume, Col Gary Leon, Col Gambetta Hyppolite, Lieutenant Colonel Urnolde Francois, Lt Col Lelio Pompee, Lt Col Carlo Magloire, Lt Col Albert Chapusette, Major Jean Lestone Annosier, Maj Joseph Charles, Maj Raymond Joseph, Maj Pierre Vincent, Captain Jean Andre Cyrus, Capt Jaris Joseph, Capt Cannel Georges, Joseph Adolph Osias, Capt Tanis Auguste, Lieutenant Lysius Obas, Lt Jacques Mondesir, Lt Jean-Louis Astrel Wesche, Sub Lieutenant Charlemagne Joseph, Sub Lieutenant Eczechias Guerrier, and Adjutant Lemercier Almonor.

The Army General Headquarters said yesterday these FADH officers have been retired.

Furthermore, the Army General Headquarters informs the public in particular that the ad interim commander in chief on 21 September ordered the following officers discharged: Lieutenant Colonel Rippert Clermont, Major Jean-Robert Figaro, and Sub Lieutenant Claude Marc.

Beside the firings, there are also some new appointments. The military government yesterday announced the appointment of a new chief for the Port-au-Prince Police to replace General Gregoire Figaro, who had ties to the ousted regime of General Namphy and who was retired last Tuesday. He is 38-year-old Lt Col Georges Valcin, who recently spent a year in France taking the higher-level courses of the Ecole de la Gendarmerie Nationale (?at Miloume). Lt Col Valcin made very good grades there and was elected president of the foreign students.

According to military sources, the new head of the police is to prepare the separation of the police from the rest of the Army, in order to make it a distinct professional corps, complying with the current demands of the Army grassroots and the Constitution of 1987.

We also learned yesterday from a military source that Captain (Ramus St Vil), who has also just finished a 1-year training course at the French Gendarmerie school, has been confirmed as head of the Narcotics Bureau, which is in charge of fighting drug trafficking in Haiti.

Also, (Renan Jean-Louis), who is Captain Meteo [the weather man on TV], has been promoted lieutenant colonel and has been made the head of the Air Force.

Military Hospital Authorities 'Replaced'
FL2309212388 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 1600 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Excerpts] The wave of protests this morning hit the military hospital. The soldiers are demanding the departure of the certain hospital authorities deemed undesirable.

[Passage omitted] Today new leders were chosen and leaders deemed undesirable were chased away from the military hospital. [Begin unidentified speaker recording] We have made our own choices. We have chosen Col (Maurice Durer) to be the health services director. We are leaving Major (Eusebe), the executive, in place. We chose Col (Alix Trevan) as the military hospital director. We want to promote (Marc Magloire Germain) to the rank of major, as a hospital executive. And we have Major (Dieudonne) as (?quartermaster) of the health services.

We have colonels, such as Col Jean Verly, who we do not want. We don't want Lt (Edouard C. Maurice), Capt (Azulfa), or Sub Lieutenent (Roland Dorvil). We will have to leave Colonel Medor because he is a medical doctor, and (?performs a service), but we don't want him as health services director.

We say, further, that emergency measures must be taken to get these guys out from among us. Col Jean Verly told Corporal (Edouard Guerrier) when he had been taken before Verly, that he, the corporal, was not at Aristide's home. Well, today the military hospital is indeed Father Aristide's home! We don't need Verly at this hospital.

Speaking of the 29 November business that happened, we have learned that—Clovis Desinor and Claude Raymond and others—were deeply involved. These men are not wanted anymore. They must be arrested and brought to trial. [end recording]

Thus, a wave of protest hit the military hospital this morning.

National University Director Ousted, Replaced
FL2309222588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 1600 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Excerpts] We are now going to hear from our reporter (Clarens Renois), who is in the vicinity of the office of the university rector, where the students are asking the university's current rector to leave. [passage omitted]

[Mobile Unit 17 reporter, speaking French] [Passage omitted] Like we said in our flash a few minutes ago, things are stirring around Rue Bonne Foi too, with the removal this morning by the university students of the now former director Jean-Baptiste Roumain, who was quickly replaced by—as you know, as you can already guess—Roger Gaillard, who has already headed the University of Haiti once before.

The students have made their choice; and they are for the time being occupying the offices of the director of the National University of Haiti on Rue Bonne Foi. The university grassroots, as they term it, and the members of the National Federation of Haitian Students are also here. It seems the choice of Roger Gaillard to head the National University of Haiti is unanimous. [passage omitted]

El Salvador

Army 'Massacre' of 10 Peasants Reported

PA2309142288 Paris AFP in Spanish 0511 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] San Sebastian, El Salvador, 22 Sep (AFP)—The Salvadoran Army massacred 10 peasants—including women—last Wednesday, according to eyewitnesses. Official sources, however, reported that they were killed during a clash between soldiers and guerrillas.

Rosa Emilia Rivas, one of the survivers, told humanitarian organizations how troops of the elite Jiboa Battalion of the 5th Infantry Brigade arrived in San Sebastian, San Francisco Canton, located 60 km east of San Salvador, gathered the townspeople together at a school, and then called out the names of 10 people who were on a list.

Rivas added that the soldiers took the 10 selected victims to a ravine, shot them, and then hurled three grenades at them. The Army's Press Office reported the incident as a clash between Jiboa Battalion troops and FMLN guerrillas.

The official report said that "10 rebels were killed when Jiboa Battalion troops surprised a group of FMLN extremists at a place known as La Cebadilla in San Vicente jurisdiction, which resulted in a ferocious battle."

However, in statements to Americas Watch, a U.S. human rights organization, and the archbishop of San Salvador's Legal Assistance Office, eyewitnesses directly blamed the Army and President Jose Napoleon Duarte's government for the incident.

Scenes of the San Sebastian massacre were seen on Thursday on local television, which had not aired similar reports since the last mass murder 5 years ago. Meanwhile, the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission demanded a "thorough investigation and the punishment of those responsible" for the crime.

Coprefa Cites Rebel Attack

PA2309210588 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Coprefa report]

[Text] Necessary Clarification:

Regarding the 21 September incidents in San Sebastian, San Vicente Department, Coprefa clarifies to the public:

1. According to 5th Infantry Brigade reports, Jiboa Battalion soldiers arrested eight people whose links with the clandestine FMLN organizations were subject to investigation.

2. As the Jiboa Battalion troops and the detainees were passing by the place known as La Cebadilla, terrorists launched a surprise attack with explosives and small-arms fire, killing the detainees and wounding one soldier.

3. Two of the attackers died when the military units repelled the attack. The following weapons were confiscated: 2 M-16 rifles, 6 cartridge clips with 300 cartridges, 6 Claymore mines, 5 booby traps, and other war materiel.

4. This case is similar to an incident in San Jose Guayabal, Cuscatlan, where terrorists ambushed a National Guard contingent that was transferring to Cojutepeque a woman who had been arrested because of her participation in FMLN activities. On that occasion, two soldiers and the arrested woman were killed.

Coprefa has deemed it necessary to make these clarifications to ensure no doubts exist regarding its daily reports as the official Armed Forces information source—there previously have been attempts to distort its official reports.

Duarte on Incident

PA2409000488 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] President Jose Napoleon Duarte has stated that the murder of 10 peasants near San Francisco community, San Sebastian, San Vicente Department, continues to be investigated. Two different versions of the case have been reported. One version states the peasants were FMLN members killed during a clash with the Army. The other version was given by a relative of one of the murdered peasants, who said Jiboa Batallion soldiers killed the peasants on 16 September. Let us hear the president:

[Begin recording] [Duarte] We will receive more details today. I have already given you the information I have, but I will receive more details today.

[Reporter] Mr President, does this endanger the human rights situation in the country?

[Duarte] If you only pay attention to those who criticize and blame the Army, you will reach your own conclusion and say it does endanger the human rights situation, but if you ask yourself if it is true or not... [changes thought] because, presently, they want to make a human rights case out of every skirmish and every incident that occurs during a battle. They are trying to make every incident a human rights case, because the UN meeting on human rights is to take place in the near future. They are trying to convert every incident of this nature into a criminal incident. When there is war, battles and death occur. Many soldiers have just died near Morazan. Why is it not said that the men who died were peasants and that

the guerrillas came to kill them? This type of [words indistinct] are not reported. Therefore, we must be careful not to reach conclusions from reports made by unverifiable sources.

[Reporter] Mr President, in this particular case Coprefa stated that peasants died in a clash with rebels, but the victims' relatives reported Jiboa Battalion soldiers attacked the victims, held them blindfolded all day, and then with a [words indistinct] took them out and murdered them.

[Duarte] I cannot comment because I do not have all the information. I firmly believe Defense and Public Security Minister General Vides Casanova has given me the correct report. He has reported that the incident resulted in a clash. Obviously, there are sectors in that area aligned with the Marxist groups. Obviously, victims' relatives can report, lie, change opinions, and create problems to promote a negative campaign against the government. All this, however, does not mean we are not investigating the case to find out what really happened. This government, regardless of the results, has always sought the truth, and in this case [words indistinct] we will also search for the truth.

[Reporter] Mr President, Coprefa changed its report of the case today [words indistinct] in clashes with rebels but that they were ambushed by guerrillas. Why has the Army's version changed?

[Duarte] The report I have is that it was a skirmish. A skirmish could be caused by an ambush or it could simply have been a skirmish. In practice, they are exactly the same thing. It could be that the incident occurred as Coprefa reports it, and that could mean either a clash between both groups or one group waited for the other to ambush it. In both cases, a skirmish would result. [end recording]

Venceremos Comments

PA2509170288 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1400 GMT 25 Sep 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] When Jiboa Battalion troops, following orders from Colonel [Jose Emilio] Chavez Caceres, murdered 10 peasants near La Cebadilla creek, San Vicente Department, they never imagined that [words indistinct] would be in the news all over the world within just a few hours. The soldiers' minds were at ease because this method of murdering civilians and then claiming that they were actually guerrillas killed in combat is a very common method employed by the Armed Forces. This is one way in which they wage the war, and it is part of the alleged professionalism of the Army.

This time, however, the Armed Forces made a mistake, or rather, they were unlucky because a woman survived the massacre and was able to render testimony on these terrible murders. Her testimony is so convincing that it makes Coprefa's contradictory statements, clarifications, etc. look ridiculous.

Once again, this report has lifted the Christian Democratic regime's mask. [passage indistinct] The regime is showing its true colors as a dictatorship, which is in agony, suffering harsh blows all over the country. The regime is terrified by the people's fighting spirit and deployment, and it is witnessing the failure of its counterinsurgency operation in El Salvador. Because of this failure, the dictatorship sees only one solution: to perpetrate a new (?genocide), a genocide planned by the Yankees, carried out by the Armed Forces, supported and perhaps [words indistinct] by the Christian Democrats.

Several reports have been filed in the past few months on murders and human rights violations. These murders are not isolated incidents. Army troops recently brutally murdered [words indistinct] and his companions. The regime has declared [words indistinct]. Almost every day, Coprefa issues reports on guerrillas killed in combat; but these guerrillas are actually peasants who have been murdered. The Army sacks popular organizations' offices and carries out bomb attacks. The Army sows terror in strife-torn areas during its highly criminal operations. It systematically captures and expels foreign visitors and causes the disappearances of students and labor leaders. These actions are in addition to the many other human rights violations reported and condemned by local and international organizations, such as the UN Commission on Human Rights.

Duarte himself has shown concern about the upcoming UN meeting on human rights. He even arose from his deathbed to clear the murderers of their deeds. [Words indistinct] is no longer able to rouse itself to thank them or to act like a dictatorship because it has become too weak during the counterinsurgency struggle. What will they do now? Will the Armed Forces and the regime continue releasing confused statements, attempting to absolve themselves? Will they sacrifice a few soldiers, such as Chavez Caceres, who simply obeyed orders from superiors?

The people know quite well that there is no justice for the poor in this country. There will only be justice for the poor when the people seize power. Then there will be punishment for the henchmen and the murderers. Therefore, we must struggle and smash the assassins. We must overthrow this dictatorship. All people should join the combat.

Rosa Chavez on 'Massacre,' National Debate

PA2609000688 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1400 GMT 25 Sep 88

[Homily by Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, at the Metropolitan Cathedral in San Salvador—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] There is some expectation in regard to what we may say here today about the horrible incidents at La Cebadilla hamlet, San Sebastian jurisdiction, San Vicente Department. Some people are sincerely concerned because they regret all violent deaths, such as the ten peasants who were killed in La Cebadilla. Others are trying to take political advantage of the tragedy.

The legal office of the archbishopric has conducted an extensive analysis of the situation and accompanied the San Sebastian justice of the peace, his secretary, and the forensic doctor during their investigation of the case on the same day the news of the tragedy was reported. There is much paperwork on all of this, which will be a great help to the authorities, who have publicly expressed their desire to uncover the truth. Not only should the truth be known, but appropriate measures should be taken against those who are guilty, even if they are wearing military uniforms.

Let us go even further in talking about this problem, which does not limit itself to the San Sebastian massacre. The problem has a much more serious dimension. At this point, we have to ask the question: How much is human life worth in El Salvador? This question can only be answered from the point of view that all life, even that of the enemy, is sacred. There is evidence that we are losing our sense of the value of life. The daily news inures us to seeing human lives treated as numbers—so many guerrillas and so many soldiers were killed today. This is how a major tragedy is treated.

In the last few days, the numbers have increased because of the attacks and counterattacks, which are an integral part of the war routine. We no longer envision the loving mother, wife, or son of a victim who has been killed. In this type of atmosphere, people are no longer impressed when they hear about certain cases, such as young Carlos Salamanca Hernandez, a student at the Marist School in San Miguel, who was brutally murdered; or of the machinegunning of a Salvadoran Red Cross ambulance during the latest transportation stoppage imposed by the guerrillas. Many people complained about the students who were beaten up or thrown in jail by the police, but little was mentioned of the death of the (?arsenal employee) who was killed in the riots. People protest in paid advertisements and in other ways about any abuse committed by the military, but silence surrounds the suffering of so many families who have relatives in the hands of the guerrillas and who see attempts to obtain their release fail. It is even sadder when the relatives receive the word: He was executed. They are even denied the right to recover the body and to give it a Christian burial. This is the extent of the cruelty we see in El Salvador today.

The national debate final document, which we have begun officially distributing, provides some hope, especially proposition No 47, which points out the following: The prolongation of the war has brought us more evil than good; the toll of human lives; the moral costs; and the social, political, and economic costs. Many people—even the church—may not agree with other parts of the final document; however, all Salvadorans should agree that the armed conflict has placed upon the consciences of the Salvadoran people a major crisis of values. With the firm resolve to end the war as soon as possible before the war ends us, we must study the national debate document, which contains undeniable truths and ideas that are open to discussion, always in the search for a rational, human, and Christian solution to our absurd and unbearable situation. [passage omitted]

Guatemala

Government: 'Nothing New' in URNG Communique

PA2309184788 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 22 Sep 88 p 4

[Text] The government expressed its opinion yesterday on a new communique by the URNG. Government spokesmen said they found nothing new in the communique, which refers to, among other things, the national dialogue.

The spokesmen said the URNG insists on participating in the dialogue as a rebel group in line with the Esquipulas II plan. The spokesmen said, however, that Esquipulas firmly establishes that illegal groups cannot participate in any national dialogue.

On the contrary, the spokesmen said, the rebels have to surrender their weapons or hide them, as President Cerezo once said, before being accepted into the national dialogue.

In addition, the government spokesmen said, the URNG communique mentions a direct dialogue with the president; however, the Esquipulas II plan provides that any such dialogue or relationship involving the URNG or any similar group must take place with the National Reconciliation Commission.

The spokesmen added: The National Reconciliation Commissions were established in each of the Central American countries for exactly that purpose. It is therefore with these commissions that the rebel groups should establish their initial contact, which should be followed by their proposals.

As for the statement that the URNG has already made 14 calls for a dialogue with the government, the official spokesmen said the guerrillas may make more such calls. But if they use the wrong approach, the spokesmen added, they will continue making the same appeals without getting any results, because the government cannot directly negotiate with groups that operate outside the law.

Honduras

Foreign Minister on Talks on U.S. Presence

PA2309145388 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1234 GMT 23 Sep 88

["Exclusive" interview with Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras by Miriam Mercado; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Mercado] What is being negotiated right now with the United States?

[Lopez] Since 1985 we have been negotiating to regulate combined military maneuvers and exercises between the United States and Honduras. We consider it important to regulate these maneuvers within a very clear, legal framework. For example, where will U.S. troops enter Honduran territory? Under what conditions will U.S. troops enter Honduras? Where will they be allowed to bear arms when they are carrying out military maneuvers? Where will they not be allowed to bear arms? Other questions that arise will be addressed that concern the establishment of cordial relations between the two countries' military authorities. This agreement has been under discussion since 1985, and an agreement was not reached until very recently—although nothing has been signed yet.

[Mercado] Mr Foreign Minister, will these agreements be sent to Congress or will they simply be signed by President Jose Azcona?

[Lopez] These agreements will not be signed directly by the president but instead by someone given a power of attorney by the president; the agreements will be countersigned by the foreign minister. In this case, because of the nature of these protocols, we believe that the defense minister should sign the agreements—by virtue of the authority granted him by the president and assuming that these agreements are countersigned by the foreign minister—after the aforementioned issues are satisfactorily resolved.

However, I want to insist that these protocols have a clause that stipulates that before they become effective, each side's internal requirements must be dealt with; in Honduras' case, by submitting the agreements to the National Congress for approval. This is the normal procedure for international agreements. The president signs them and passes them to Congress for discussion and approval.

[Mercado] However, what can the National Congress do, because by the time the National Congress receives the protocols, the documents would have already been signed in Washington?

[Lopez] There is no other way to do it; this is part of the procedure. The agreements will not be valid until the [Honduran] Congress approves them and until the president—through the Foreign Affairs Ministry—reports to the United States that Honduras has fulfilled the internal legal requirements and has published the appropriate notice in the official gazette, which will state: Honduras considers the agreements valid as of this date.

[Mercado] Mr Foreign Minister, will the permanent presence of U.S. troops stationed in Honduras be legalized through these protocols?

[Lopez] Not at all. That is simply a rumor that has been circulating for some time. The executive branch is in full control of the situation concerning the U.S. presence in Honduras, which is basically of a temporary nature. Much has been written with regard to a number of rumors that has originated from abroad. The truth is that Honduras can terminate the U.S. presence in Honduras whenever it deems it necessary, whenever Honduras believes that it is necessary to do so for its own security interests.

However, this is not now the case. The U.S. military presence in Honduras exists by virtue of an agreement between the involved parties. That is, it is not enough for Honduras to approve the U.S. presence here; the United States also has to agree to allow its presence in our country. It is not enough for the United States to simply have the desire to send its troops here; Honduras has to agree to, request, or accept the U.S. presence in its territory.

Therefore, at this time, in view of the Central American situation, and in view of the nearness, the presence, and the significant development in the Soviet presence in the neighboring country of Nicaragua, Honduras believes that it is in its best interest to keep our security relationship with the United States, permitting the United States to have a temporary presence, and permitting the United States to use Honduran airport facilities, so that we may share military intelligence of interest to our two nations.

Regalado on Border Incidents, U.S. Bases

PA2309143088 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Interview with Armed Forces Commander General Humberto Regalado Hernandez by Iris Mencia; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Mencia] General Regalado Hernandez, the Armed Forces have reported incidents at the Honduran-Nicaraguan border during the past few days. What is the situation at this moment?

[Regalado] We have information on operations of some Sandinist military units. The situation is more or less calm, however. They have toned down their threatening behavior of firing at our territory.

[Mencia] Are these credible charges? As a matter of fact, the name of the military source is not given, leaving it anonymous. It also is being said that Honduras has become a weapons supermarket for the Nicaraguan conterrevolution. What is your opinion?

[Regalado] The official opinions of the Armed Forces are announced through the Armed Forces public relations officer. No military man can anonymously give any official Armed Forces opinion. This is not usual behavior by the Armed Forces, and I find this rather strange. I am going to try to determine who is saying that the Armed Forces have a problem. If it is a member of the Armed Forces, the report has to be made official by releasing it through the Armed Forces' formal channels.

[Mencia] Do the contradictory reports by Armed Forces officials show a weakness or weakening of the Armed Forces? This report was published by all the media and attributed to a military source.

[Regalado] No. I am going to investigate this. It seems to me that the source must be a public relations officer of one of the branches of the service, because I do not think the Armed Forces public relations officer or the Armed Forces Public Relations Office released this report. The Armed Forces Public Relations Office has to issue this information. We have no problems in this regard. There are some isolated cases, some of which even involve Hondurans who are purchasing weapons and then selling them to other people. We are planning an operation because this is illegal. I take this opportunity to make an appeal to all citizens not to purchase military weapons, because they will be immediately confiscated.

[Mencia] General, can you confirm to us once and for all the widely circulated report that a U.S. military base will be built here in Honduras?

[Regalado] Look, this is strange because you, the local journalists, should be the ones to get such reports well ahead of other sources. The president and I have denied it. Therefore, we do not know who the source of this report is and what's behind it.

[Mencia] But here, locally, we know that the agreements are going to be signed; that is, that they are going to be signed without prior approval of Congress and that the U.S. military base is included in them.

[Regalado] What happens in the case of these agreements, as Ambassador Callejas of the Foreign Ministry has so appropriately explained, is that we have to determine some matters. For instance, he very sensibly explained that we did not know what would be the legal status of the U.S. troops who come here to participate in joint operations with Honduras. We also had to establish rules on the use of military hospitals and of other facilities the United States builds on Honduran military bases in Honduran territory. We had to determine, for instance, whether a building put up by the U.S. military would become the property of the Armed Forces or the Honduran Government at the end of a specific time. It is this kind of regulation we are discussing. However, we have not talked in any way about the establishment of military bases in Honduras or about moving the U.S. Southern Command to Honduras. The answer on this is negative.

[Mencia] The president of the legislative chamber says U.S. financial aid to the Honduran Army depends on the financial aid the United States gives the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and on whether this aid effectively reaches the contras. Does this mean the Armed Forces will control aid to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries in Honduras so the military can receive the funds it needs?

[Regalado] No, no. These are two quite different issues. The Honduran Armed Forces have absolutely nothing to do with the humanitarian aid the United States gives the counterrevolution, which, as far as I know, is handled by the Red Cross, the church, and AID. Military aid is another plan, another program. Some ill-intentioned people believe the Honduran Armed Forces receive dollars, which is not true. The Armed Forces only handle paperwork in the sense that we request funds to change equipment or to purchase military equipment. We handle paperwork. We are allotted a certain amount that we handle on paper. Some ill-intentioned people believe that dollars are sent here and that the Armed Forces keep them.

[Mencias] Would the Armed Forces allow an audit as requested by some deputies in Congress? Would they also allow a reduction of their annual budget for use in more productive activities instead of security and defense?

[Regalado] [Passage indistinct] There is such a thing as security and development, and neither you nor anyone else is capable of deciding which is more important. Great strategists have not been able to decide this. Regarding the economy, I believe there can be no question. All of you know, in fact, that the Armed Forces have not used their autonomy to dominate civilian power. The Armed Forces have used their autonomy to depoliticize the military and to ensure that justice prevails in Honduras, which is one of the Armed Forces' responsibilities. [passage omitted]

Paper Views Benefits of U.S. Installations

PA2409174988 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Sep 88 p 7

[Editorial: "Military Bases"]

[Text] Both President Jose Azcona and U.S. Ambassador Everett Briggs have denied that there are plans to transfer the U.S. Southern Command, based in Panama, to

our country. They also have clearly stated that there are no negotiations on building permanent U.S. military bases on Honduran territory.

The whole thing began with a rumor picked up by NEWSWEEK in New York, and then international news agencies and several newspapers reprinted the report. This led to the exclamations of rejection, scandal, and controversy that we like so much in the tropics.

The hubbub began to subside when authorized sources said the rumor was groundless.

Many people, however, have begun to ask themselves: Why not?

U.S. defense installations, located in many countries throughout the world, protect Washington's security and interests while simultaneously looking after the host nations' security needs.

There are U.S. military bases in distant places like Japan, the ROK, the Philippines, Spain, Greece, the FRG, Panama, the southern Pacific islands, and—although many do not believe it—in the very heart of the Soviet empire in the Caribbean: Guantanamo, Cuba.

Except for this last case—which is an exceptional situation, because the Guantanamo Base has continued to operate in a relatively normal way despite the existence of a Communist government, based on a treaty that will expire late in the 20th century—the other U.S. installations and troops posted around the world are welcomed and appreciated by the respective countries.

Specifically, every time it is rumored that Uncle Sam will withdraw his troops, the Japanese and West European people have organized demonstrations and asked that this not be done. The reason is simple: the Soviet threat, which extends from the Pacific basin through the Kamchatka Peninsula (in northern Asia). Both the FRG and Japan prefer that Washington pay for a costly defense operation that includes high-technology airplanes, radar stations, missiles, and so forth, plus the personnel who handle everything—all of which is funded by the U.S. taxpayers.

Likewise, the U.S. soldiers' presence in itself dissuades Moscow. The Soviet Union is more likely to refrain from attacking U.S. troops than from attacking European or Japanese soldiers.

This dissuasive factor helps maintain a relative peace in each territory. In the meantime, the nations protected by the United States use their money to prosper. Whoever doubts it should look at the development of Western Europe and Japan, which have reached (if not surpassed) that of the United States.

We believe there is a lot of emotion involved, and not a little amount of demagoguery, when someone heatedly discusses the possibility of having permanent U.S. bases in Honduras.

Everything can be negotiated in today's world, of course. And it must be negotiated intelligently. It would be a different matter, however, if we reject a friendly, powerful nation's offer to protect our interests and security.

We have yet to see if Washington wants to participate in such an endeavor, which has military, economic, political, and—eventually—human costs.

The U.S. Congress does not want to spend the U.S. taxpayers' money defending others. It does not want its young men fighting wars in other countries.

The controversy thus is quite pointless. A wise man sees, however, that a large number of people welcome the idea of a military system that would protect Honduras from the Nicaraguan Leninists, who—just like Cuba and Vietnam—are only waiting for the opportunity to expand and to destroy our freedom.

Nicaragua

Ortega, Cerezo Meet, Comment on C.A. Summit

Cerezo on Date

PA2309220888 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1937 GMT 23 Sep 88

[News conference held by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo with unidentified reporters at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport in Managua—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Cerezo] ...about which we had talked over the telephone before. We agreed to hold a Central American presidential summit sometime during the first half of November. We think we will be meeting around 12-14 November. The summit could be held in El Salvador. We still have to talk with President Azcona and consult with him about his views on the summit. We will then discuss the agenda of the summit, which is intended to strengthen internal dialogue and promote the creation of an institutional base for this dialogue—the Central American parliament. We would also deal with other problems, such as an economic aid plan for Central America, which will be presented at the United Nations.

Those would be the basic topics to be discussed at the summit, but our foreign ministers will be in charge of drafting the final agenda. I will gladly answer your questions now.

[Reporter] President Cerezo, what do you think of the presence of a contra hospital in Costa Rica? What is its effect on the efforts made by the Central American presidents and on the fulfillment of the Esquipulas agreement?

[Cerezo] We heard that news report. We must try to avoid any action that could hinder good relations between [Nicaragua and Costa Rica] and any action that could provide help for armed groups fighting against the Central American governments. That has always been the spirit of the Esquipulas agreement.

[Reporter] Mr President, what is the main obstacle for the Central American summit? It is said there are over 12,000 contras in Honduras. How do you expect to solve that problem and hold a summit?

[Cerezo] I believe that problem could end in the near future, if there is an internal dialogue in Nicaragua, if adequate conditions for the return of those contras to Nicaragua are created, and if we obtain the Honduran Government's willingness to strengthen the Central American governments' will for peace.

Of course, it will also be necessary for the Verification and Security Commission to meet. That will prevent those people—now located in Honduras—from attacking the Nicaraguan regime militarily. We want to avoid military attacks on other legitimate Central American regimes.

[Reporter] What is your opinion concerning the presence of CIA agents in Nicaragua as Jim Wright, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, has revealed?

[Cerezo] We have always been against all forms of intervention in other country's internal affairs. The spirit of the peace process is to strengthen conditions within each Central American country so that the citizens of each nation can solve their own problems. We reject all forms of intervention.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] the most important results of the Central American peace process?

[Cerezo] The Central American peace plan has already had positive results. Some of the difficulties the process has encountered deal with the internal situation in each of the region's countries and the persistence of some groups to continue facing problems militarily and not through political dialogue or participation in the political opportunities that are being opened through the Esquipulas agreement. I believe violence is no longer justified in Central America, and we must now seek peaceful solutions, because that is the only way to create conditions for rapid economic and social development in Central America.

[Reporter] President Cerezo, do you not think it was a mistake to have crucified the Verification Commission in January? What is the present situation concerning the Verification Commission? That commission is the responsibility of the foreign ministers, but they have been unable to make any specific progress. The commission has not verified what was agreed on in August 1987.

[Cerezo] One of the reasons for my tour is to highlight the Verification and Security Commission issue and to reactivate it with the participation of Canada, Spain, and Germany. This issue will be discussed by the region's foreign ministers at their next meeting, which I think will be held in Managua.

[Reporter] What do you think the attitude of the U.S. Government should be regarding the upcoming Central American summit?

[Cerezo] I believe the U.S. Government should respect our summit. It must accept that the Central American countries must be the makers of our own destinies.

[Reporter] How do you view the Esquipulas agreement 1 year after its signing?

[Cerezo] Well, I think we succeeded in establishing a permanent institution for Central American dialogue, the Central American parliament. We only need Costa Rica's approval [to establish the parliament]. We hope it will approve it this year. In addition, mechanisms for internal dialogue have been created in each country, and there is a possibility of creating a comprehensive economic plan for Central America. The threat of a widening of the conflict disappeared and we became aware of our need to solve Central American problems in a peaceful way. We now have to make further progress.

[Reporter] Mr President, in addition to establishing a system to protect citizens, deliver new weapons to the Guatemalan Army, and allow labor and peoples movements not to fulfill the commitments they made, what other concessions will your government make to the military sectors that tried to overthrow you and the business sectors that support you?

[Cerezo] You are just making a statement. What you said is not the situation in Guatemala. The truth is that the extreme right-wing groups in Guatemala have tried to create a climate of instability and have alleged that there is internal conflict in the Army. But this is not true. The Guatemalan Army has firmly defended the democratic process in Guatemala with absolute conviction. The proof of that is that we were able to make significant changes in the tax laws and we created political opportunities for labor organizations. We practically eradicated government repression. We are controlling the groups that could act violently against mass organizations. There is proof that there is ample freedom in Guatemala and that we are consolidating our democratic process. That evidence shows the unity of the Army, the

government, and many political and mass organizations. No one has asked the government to make concessions and we are not willing to make any concessions that could harm the democratic process.

[Reporter] Mr President, what could be the impact of the change in the U.S. administration on the Esquipulas peace process?

[Cerezo] Any changes in the U.S. administration will entail a change in the U.S. attitude toward Central America. We believe that is one of the reasons why another Central American summit is necessary now. We must maintain a position that must be supported and respected by any U.S. administration. Thank you very much. We must leave now.

Ortega on U.S. Actions

PA2309224188 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1954 GMT 23 Sep 88

[News conference held by President Daniel Ortega with unidentified reporters at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport in Managua—live]

[Text] [Ortega] Guatemalan President Cerezo has already told you what we talked about during his brief visit to Nicaragua. He is touring the Central American countries, and Honduras is the only country he has yet to visit. He is going to that country to complete the tour he carried out to hear the Central American presidents' views. He wants to know who advocates a presidential summit in San Salvador in the 2d week of November.

We have always advocated holding this meeting of presidents. We have even promoted this meeting of presidents with President Cerezo and President Arias. We hope that President Azcona will agree with the other Central American presidents' wish to meet and discuss the implementation of the Esquipulas peace plan and the actions we may adopt to strengthen the Esquipulas peace plan and to ensure the Central American peoples' right to decide their own actions as well as to keep our actions and decisions from being dictated by the U.S. Government's policy. We hope a consensus is attained among the Central American presidents. All we need is President Azcona's acceptance so we may formally announce the meeting will be held in El Salvador during the 2d week of November.

[Reporter] Mr President, the U.S. Government generally increases its pressure on the Central American governments when a presidential summit takes place. What do you expect now that the presidents will meet again?

[Ortega] The pressures have never ceased; the U.S. Government has always exerted pressure. U.S. Government envoys have visited Central America on several occasions, particularly Mr Busby. He has visited the Central American region, and the United States has tried to get a declaration of war against Nicaragua from the Central American nations. However, the U.S. Government has yet to achieve its goal, and we hope it never does.

A consensus is being sought for the Central American presidents' summit, yet no one can deny that the U.S. Government continues to exert pressure on, threaten, and blackmail the Central American governments to undermine the Central American presidents's efforts for peace, negotiation, and a dialogue.

[Reporter] Commander Ortega, what kind of proposal will Nicaragua present at the Central American presidents' summit?

[Ortega] We have some points still pending, particularly concerning the Central American parliament. The Costa Rican Congress has yet to approve the plan for a Central American parliament, but we hope it will be approved by the time the meeting takes place. We will try to establish a date for implementing the agreement.

We first thought the elections would be held simultaneously, yet Costa Rica has already presented a proposal that the elections be held according to each country's ability. Costa Rica wants to hold the Central American parliament elections and its general elections at the same time. This would allow each Central American country to hold the Central American parliament elections at the most convenient time—without postponing them indefinitely, of course.

We also have to review specific topics, particularly concerning security among Central American states. One of the most critical topics refers to Honduran-Nicaraguan relations, because the situation at our border has gotten to the point where the United States can provoke an aggression against our country. The United States can very well launch a military intervention against Nicaragua by claiming—as it has done on previous occasions—we are trying to annihilate the mercenary forces based in Honduras or invade Honduran territory. The danger is still latent.

Also, if Honduras is worried about the lawsuit Nicaragua filed at the International Court of Justice for Honduras' violation when it allows the mercenary forces and the U.S. Government to use its territory in their plans against Nicaragua, then the healthier thing would be for Honduras to accept the Nicaraguan Government's proposal.

Spain, Canada, the FRG, and a Latin American country from the Group of Eight would then form an international commission of civilian observers and post them in the border area. If Honduras accepts this, Nicaragua would be willing to settle out of court the case that is currently in the International Court of Justice's hands. However, we clearly state that we do not trust the Honduran Government's word; we only trust its actions.

Therefore, Nicaragua would demand the inclusion of a clause that clearly states that the Nicaraguan and Honduran Governments reserve the right to resort to the International Court of Justice if we consider this appropriate. In other words, we cannot rule out the court's role and we—meaning Honduras and Nicaragua—cannot give up the right to resort to the International Court of Justice whenever it is considered appropriate.

We know that states have legal ways of settling their disputes in a peaceful way, and we cannot give up that right because that would open the road to the use of force; that is, a military solution to those problems or issues.

[Reporter] Commander, is there any possibility of reactivating the peace plan when the Nicaraguan delegation is denied a visa to visit the United States and when the political confrontation with the Democratic Coordinating Board has worsened?

[Ortega] The U.S. Government has not given up its plans to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution. Jim Wright has presented some charges at the House of Representatives, but this is not news to us. We have been stating this for some time. We said that the plans had been prepared... [changes thought] that the CIA had been working through the U.S. Embassy to conspire and prepare a plan, like the one that was prepared in Chile, to destabilize the Nicaraguan Government and create the appropriate conditions for U.S. military aggression. The plan ranges from direct intervention by the U.S. Armed Forces to the approval of more funds for the contras by the U.S. Congress.

Therefore, ever since Reagan was inaugurated, Nicaragua has also been reporting that the administration had launched covert operations, yet nobody believed us until the scandal broke out in the U.S. Congress and it was said that it was true. This confirms an action, which President Reagan has clearly defended, of using state terrorism against the Nicaraguan Government. That state terrorism even has the U.S. Government negate the agreements it has signed with the United Nations regarding its commitment as the host country for an international organizations.

That is why in a flagrant and disrespectful manner toward the United Nations—because this issue not only concerns Nicaragua, but the United Nations as well—the U.S. Government has chosen to decide who should accompany the Nicaraguan president on his travels and when the Nicaragua president should travel. Under those conditions, we prefer not to travel to the United Nations. Under those conditions, we prefer not to travel to the United Nations and present our formal and vigorous protest to the United Nations and accuse the Yankee government for this outrage.

This is part of the aggression, the destabilizing action, that the Reagan administration has not given up. Therefore, the political actions by the Coordinating Board or other political parties are political actions that represent a policy of confrontation, of provocation, in order to justify the Yankee government's terrorist policy against Nicaragua. That has led the Nicaraguan Government to tell those people of the Coordinating Board who are trying to organize a demonstration that it is best they do not hold that demonstration. We prefer that they be a little patient or try to see how they can adjust their behavior to the laws of Nicaragua. We are not going to allow them to provoke a situation that will lead to an international scandal, which is what the U.S. Government is seeking in order to justify its policy of terrorism against Nicaragua.

Naturally, under these conditions the peace efforts, the negotiations with the U.S. Government, seem pretty unlikely to be successful. However, we cannot give up. In other words, Nicaraguans cannot give up working for peace. We Central Americans cannot give up working for peace. We Latin Americans cannot give up working for peace, even if the Yankee government is against peace. I believe it is with this spirit that Nicaragua recently made an effort to hold a preparatory meeting with the contras in Guatemala in order to hold a meeting in Managua, which has been rejected. In other words, the contras do not want, or the Yankee government does not want, [to hold a meeting]. They do not want that meeting in Managua, they do not want to continue with the negotiating process.

Likewise, the Americans do not like the idea of the Central American presidents' meeting. Thus, it is to be expected that they will exert pressure so this meeting will not be held, but we are compelled to work so this meeting will be held.

[Reporter] Mr President, what other steps will be taken by the government in the face of the refusal of the U.S. State Department to grant the visas? Another question is: What will our government do concerning the Nandaime prisoners?

[Ortega] Well, we have filed the pertinent charges. We are resorting to the United Nations. Foreign Minister D'Escoto had already scheduled his trip to the United Nations even before we had reached a decision on my trip to the United Nations. The U.S. spokesmen have tried in a deceitful and cunning manner to mention that Foreign Minister D'Escoto has been granted a visa, as if visas had been granted to the delegation traveling with me. Although it is true he was joining the delegation, the truth is that when he requested his visa, we had not yet decided on my trip to the United Nations. Logically, he is going over there to defend, as Nicaragua has done, international law. We will not go to the United Nations, because if we go to the United Nations under these conditions, we would be accepting the Yankee government's rules of the game.

We would then be attacking the principles we are defending and which should be respected: international legal mechanisms, the UN Charter, and the International Court of Justice. To accept going to the United States under these conditions would be to set a negative precedent, where the Yankee government decides who can be part of a delegation, who can be in the chief of state's delegation, who cannot be in a delegation, and when that chief of state may arrive and when that chief of state may not arrive.

Therefore, for the sake of the defense of international legal order, for the defense of the United Nations, for the defense of international law, we will not, that is, I will not go to the United Nations, but the Nicaraguan delegation will go. Foreign Minister D'Escoto will carry a clear message and will denounce U.S. policy—that cynical, arrogant, and terrorist policy of the Yankee government. President Reagan will shortly speak at the United Nations and he will boast in an arrogant manner. That is the only explanation there can be: that while a chief of state is hindered from entering the United Nations, the Yankee government, President Reagan himself, delivers a demagogic speech there.

The only thing left for Nicaragua to do is to denounce that attitude and call on the international community to act in a vigorous manner so that actions such as this will not occur again.

[Reporter] In other words, the Reagan government has stated that Mr Jim Wright has aligned himself with the Sandinist government's policy. Would you like to comment on this?

[Ortega] This has been done not only by the Yankee government, but by the Yankee newspaper; the Reagan newspaper has also said it. The Reagan newspapers, the Reagan radios, and the Reagan political parties have all said it. Thus, the fact is that in the United States a high-ranking representative from Congress confirms something that was already public knowledge: that the CIA was operating openly and that this forced the Nicaraguan Government to expel the Yankee ambassador along with six more agents that were plotting against the Nicaraguan Government. This led the Yankee government and its spokesmen here in Nicaragua to the conclusion that that U.S. representative—Mr Wright—is a Sandinist or a revolutionary. I think we cannot confuse things here. It is clear that Mr Wright has only repeated something that was already public knowledge and that had been denounced by the Nicaraguan Government. When we expelled Mr Melton and the six other CIA agents here in Nicaragua, we did so because they were openly plotting.

They were working to form a government of national salvation. They have not yet given up on that idea. They are working to create that government with the opposition forces, the counterrevolution, and trade unions. This way, they wanted to legitimize a political apparatus that may fill a vacuum if there is a Yankee intervention in our country. That is intolerable. For that reason, we acted accordingly by expelling the Yankee ambassador and his (?staff).

[Reporter] Regarding the report that the Nandaime inmates will be deported...

[Ortega, interrupting] That is completely false.

[Reporter] About something else ...

[Ortega, interrupting] We are not deporting those people. They are being tried. The judges will issue a ruling. They will issue a ruling when they must. I cannot tell the judges to rule now, tomorrow, or in 1 year. They will issue their ruling in accordance with the legal system. If they must issue a ruling today, they will. If they must issue a ruling in 1 week, they will. If they must issue a ruling in 5 months, they will. That depends on the legal system.

[Reporter] President Cerezo asked that they be released.

[Ortega] We talked about the meeting of the Central American presidents with President Cerezo. We also talked about the domestic situation in Nicaragua and Guatemala. Logically, we talked about the situation that has arisen regarding those people. I explained to President Cerezo how those people had been conspiring and were the instruments of a plan of provocation. In fact, they are trying to stage new demonstrations to sway the U.S. Congress to grant aid to the counterrevolution.

We must consider that under these circumstances, when the Yankee administration has debilitated the Sapoa negotiating process, there is no room for the so-called humanitarian aid. Humanitarian aid had a place when the negotiating process was under way and there was a possibility the contras would be located in the enclaves. The humanitarian aid would reach the contras in those enclaves through Nicaraguan territory and the Red Cross. That was Nicaragua's (?commitment). Under present circumstances, where there are no negotiations, where the contras do not want negotiations, where the Yankee government does not want negotiations, any sort of aid approved by the Yankee government is simply an attack on the Esquipulas agreement and an attack on peace. Moreover, it does not help in the least to reactivate the Sapoa negotiating process.

[Reporter] As for the contra hospital in San Jose, the Costa Rican Government replied to the letter sent by Nicaragua. Does the Nicaraguan Government feel that this reply is satisfactory?

[Ortega] We do not consider it satisfactory. We feel the Costa Rican Government must dismantle the contra hospital, because otherwise the Costa Rican Government is violating the Sapoa agreement by becoming a rearguard of the counterrevolution. In that hospital, a

man who got injured in a clash in Nicaraguan territory is cured so that man, that mercenary, can return to Nicaraguan territory to continue murdering Nicaragua's children and people. That is intolerable. That violates the Sapoa agreement. We hope President Arias will deal properly with those who agreed to the building of a contra hospital in Costa Rican territory. When this matter was brought to our attention 2 months ago, we said we did not accept it. President Arias said this hospital would not be built in Costa Rican territory. Now it turns out the hospital is there. Officials paid by the CIA agreed to the building of that hospital in Costa Rica. [4-minute station break]

[Reporter] Once again, we are at the airport with more comments by Nicaraguan President Ortega:

[Ortega, in progress]...on the contrary, the sons of these mothers are dead; their sons are dead. These mothers have no hope of being with their sons again, because the contras killed their sons. Other mothers are suffering because they do not know the location of their sons, who have been kidnapped by the contras. There is a contrast in the attitude of the Nicaraguan Government and these [Nandaime] prisoners and their relatives. Their relatives can visit and see them. The prisoners feel at ease; they are being fed.

[Speaker] They are being fed.

[Ortega] On the other hand, the sons of Nicaragua's heroic mothers were murdered by the contras, those criminals. Those people, who were arrested for actions of incitement against the police and the law in Nandaime, defend the contras. As representatives of the Nicaraguan nation, we will continue striving to have the contras release the thousands of people whom they are holding, not the 66 hostages they claim to have. That figure is totally false.

[Reporter] This was President Ortega responding to a request by several mothers of heroes and martyrs for the return of the Nicaraguans kidnapped by the contras. He appealed to the Central American countries and governments for the release of the more than 6,000 Nicaraguans who were kidnapped by the counterrevolution.

Obando y Bravo Criticizes Wright's Statements

PA2509212988 Paris AFP in Spanish 2001 GMT 25 Sep 88

[Text] Managua, 25 Sep (AFP)—Managua's Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo today described as "unfortunate" statements made last week by U.S. Representative Jim Wright, who said that Washington was encouraging antigovernment activities in Nicaragua.

At the end of his usual Sunday mass, the prelate told reporters that "Wright made those statements for the benefit of his party—the Democrats—in the presidential elections."

Wright criticized antigovernment activities in Nicaragua—presumably encouraged by the CIA—which, he said, were aimed at provoking arrests and inciting the Sandinist authorities to take repressive measures.

Obando said that "Wright's statements are detrimental to the Nicaraguan political prisoners," especially the 38 opposition leaders jailed on 11 July following an anti-Sandinist demonstration.

The prelate, who heads the National Reconciliation Commission, regretted that the government had vetoed the entry into Nicaragua of Dominican Republic Rear Admiral Victor Garcia, who was to serve as "church adviser on military affairs."

The church leader repeated that there is no freedom of expression in Nicaragua, citing as an example the prohibition against reporting on the status of Radio Catolica.

Paper on Ties With Endowment for Democracy

PA2409204088 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Sep 88 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Inconsistent and Inconsequential Arguments"]

[Text] In statements yesterday to the official newspapers, President Daniel Ortega and Interior Minister Tomas Borge once again tried to link LA PRENSA to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Ortega said "on request from the CIA, the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) gave LA PRENSA $47,500 to destabilize the domestic situation in Nicaragua."

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Tomas Borge said the NED's funding of media such as LA PRENSA is immoral and illegal. Borge added that "we will consider our response to this type of aid to the media."

In light of such biased and slanderous statements that threaten freedom of expression in Nicaragua, we feel it is necessary to point out some facts about our relationship with the NED. The Sandinists have concealed these facts while constantly spreading insults and lies against LA PRENSA that they have never been able to prove.

LA PRENSA has indeed received aid from the NED since 1985 and has never concealed this fact. It is also common knowledge that the NED is financed solely by the U.S. Congress. This is well known by governments that understand how this U.S. bipartisan foundation operates.

If we consider that the Democratic Party—which has many Sandinist supporters—has dominated the U.S. Congress since 1985, then these Sandinist supporters themselves have approved the NED and we have received and thus legitimized it. It is therefore impossible to label this aid as immoral. If this were the case, then the Sandinists

would also have to consider their ties and friendship with Democrats such as [Senator Christopher] Dodd or [House of Representatives Speaker Jim] Wright as immoral.

The aid we have received from the NED has been properly declared and registered at the Central Bank of Nicaragua and at the Foreign Cooperation Ministry, as required by Nicaraguan law. It has also saved the country money in the purchase of basic materials such as ink, film, and printing equipment, among other things.

The government therefore has no basis whatsoever to say that we have acted illegally. The Sandinist Constitution itself states that "no one is obliged to do anything not required by law, nor is anyone prevented from doing what the law does not forbid."

According to international agreements that Nicaragua endorses, such as the Esquipulas II agreement—which President Ortega himself signed—LA PRENSA and also Nicaragua's official newspapers have the right to accept any donations so they can be widely circulated and can report the truth for the Nicaraguan people's benefit.

If Ortega himself, on behalf of the Sandinist government, has repeatedly approached the United States to normalize bilateral relations, on what ethical basis does he criticize LA PRENSA's relations with a legitimate U.S. Government organization?

Contra Hospital Shows Arias Policy Deterioration

PA2309193288 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Sep 88 p 3

[Editorial: "What Is Intolerable in a Confession"]

[Text] The discovery of the existence of a hospital offering medical care to the Nicaraguan contras in Costa Rica financed by the Agency for International Development is further proof of the deterioration of President Arias' foreign policy.

The existence of this hospital, along with other actions by the Costa Rican Government, contradict Arias' professed intentions of setting himself up as a judge and guarantor of the Esquipulas agreements. When the Costa Rican president justified aid for the contras, he said that despite his approval, he was unwilling to allow the aid to be transferred through Costa Rican territory. How can he then explain the establishment of a hospital for the mercenaries in San Jose itself, only 3 km away from the Presidential Palace, supported precisely by this aid Arias mentioned?

It is also paradoxical that the authorization to establish that hospital was granted by Arias' government on 7 April, only 15 days after the Sapoa agreements were signed. Why would a hospital for those injured in war be necessary when the first concrete step toward peace had been made? Is it perhaps that the Costa Rican Government knew that the United States would not let the contras fulfill those agreements?

People in glass houses should not throw stones. The ambiguities and contradictions of Costa Rican foreign policy rule out any pretensions it may have to set an example of behavior for the other Central American governments. Honduras and El Salvador have openly violated the agreements, but now one can say the same about Costa Rica.

The Executive Commission [established by the Esquipulas II agreements] has been completely ineffective in reactivating the peace agreement. Meanwhile, the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission [CIVS] has shown that it is a reliable instrument to impartially and without rhetoric follow up and verify how each country is complying with its commitments.

Peace cannot wait. We must overcome stagnation and prevent the imposition on the Central American peoples of Yankee blackmail, pressure, and war. We have a commitment to uphold, and, to guarantee peace, we have an instrument: the CIVS. Its reactivation means that we are heeding the urgent call for peace.

Ortega Comments on Population Growth, Economy

PA2309193588 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0002 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega at the National Seminar on Population Growth and Development at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua—live; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In the past, Nicaragua was dominated by imperialists, liberals, conservatives, and capitalists. In those days, population growth was desired by those in charge of capitalist, colonial, and other forms of domination in undeveloped Latin American, African, and Asian countries.

Because of technological progress, capitalist domination is no longer dependent on abundant labor. Population growth becomes a threat to the system allegedly because of humanitarian factors. It is incredible that a poor peasant woman with 11, 12, 13, or 15 children cannot have health care. Capitalists and dictators say: We cannot care for the health of this woman and her children. This is not included in their development plans or in the planned relationship between the metropolis and the areas subordinated to it. This service is not offered to the workforce that is being exploited and that has not only become less essential because of technological progress but has become a threat.

Now an alleged humanitarian reasoning comes in. The ideal solution for a capitalist state is regulating population growth so it does not become a problem, not even one of image, and advocating a system in which a

minority is privileged. This way the capitalist system is not threatened by a population explosion, which can create rebellion and protests. As far as the capitalists are concerned, the best thing would be to find forms of birth control so that population growth will not be a problem. The capitalists believe that this way they would have a clean city, free of miserable, poor people. If things could be arranged so that there is a check of population growth in the developing countries, then the risk of a social explosion or a revolution disappears, the capitalists like to think. The capitalists think they would then have clean, presentable cities. [passage omitted]

In the United States, which has the lowest mortality rate in the world, the system is not designed to solve the problem of infant mortality for all the U.S. population. There are areas where the infant mortality rate is high, including even Washington, DC, which has the highest [words indistinct] in the United States. This situation alienates a considerable part of the U.S. population. [passage omitted]

I am concerned about the conclusions that some may reach about the link between population growth and economic growth. In fact, we experienced a period of economic growth even after Reagan took office in 1981 and began his covert war against Nicaragua, when the effects of the war had not yet seriously shaken the Nicaraguan economy. The truth is that despite our economic limitations and weaknesses, we had started a wide range of projects to solve problems that had not been solved by capitalism. Was it logical at that time to try to solve the problems that capitalism had not solved by curbing population growth, or was it more logical to try to find solutions to the problems faced by a population that was spontaneously growing, so to say? Was it not more logical to solve the population's problems by giving them access to education, to jobs, to health services, [words indistinct]? That was the policy we were promoting and implementing.

Then we faced a fundamental problem when those efforts began deteriorating, because with a deteriorating economy, with a country that lacked capital, and with a worn-out infrastructure that we inherited from capitalism, we were accomplishing real miracles. We could accomplish real miracles because the people assumed their tasks full of hope and confidence, and we moved ahead. We faced great problems and limitations, but the truth is that we made significant progress. Then the situation deteriorated even further, and everything we had invested in that direction and the progress we had made had to be curbed. We had to ration our limited resources, we had to modify our economic policies, and we had to begin fighting against galloping inflation. In other words, the war became a factor that conspired against and obstructed the growth begun by our revolution during its initial years.

The youths, the students, and the peasants—who were working in the fields and organizing the cooperatives and who for the first time were becoming owners of the land—are being affected by the war. Our whole society and the entire country are being affected by the war. Under the circumstances we are enduring, therefore, it is difficult for me to understand that part of the problem we are now facing could or should be solved by restraining our population growth. If one studies figures on population growth in Nicaragua and in other countries, one will see that population growth in many other countries is lower than in Nicaragua. Does this means those countries are better off than Nicaragua because their population growth is lower than Nicaragua's? Does it mean those peoples are better off than the Nicaraguan people because their population growth is lower than Nicaragua's? Could it not be that the imperialist policy since the 1960's has been having its effect and has in fact restricted population growth in Latin American countries? Is it that we are seeing a miracle that no one has discovered, seeing deep changes in those countries where people are receiving benefits, have jobs, have good health, have good living conditions, and in addition are trying to adjust to family planning programs?

We all know this is not the reality. Despite family planning, encouraged by the interest of others, those nations are subjected to brutal, exploiting regimes. Although those countries have been able to reduce population growth, the economic crisis affecting the entire region is so great that those regimes cannot implement economic reforms that would have an impact on the social order and would in turn generate a minimum of political stability. In addition, there is a contradiction due to the interest of the U.S. empire, since it wants to rule and keep Latin American and Caribbean countries under total domination, even though most of those countries have systems of government that are fully identified with the capitalist system.

Moreover, some countries have points of agreement with and in some cases are subordinated to imperialism. In fact, some Latin American governments are totally subordinated to imperialism. Imperialism, however, does not help those countries implement economic reforms that would give a minimum stability to the system and that would allow those regimes to neutralize the workers, peasants, and students. Imperialism pushes the idea that it is possible to have a stable, peaceful, and just regime by having this kind of system. That is impossible. There are great contradictions and conflicts. Social and political explosions are taking place in all those countries. [passage omitted]

We have received unconditional solidarity only from the socialist countries and a few European countries. Otherwise, cooperation has been offered with conditions, with pressure of all kinds. They wanted to tell us what we Nicaraguans should do here, what kind of regime we should establish. We considered that unacceptable. If they offer us cooperation without conditions, fine; if not, they can keep their assistance and give it to those who are willing to accept it with conditions.

In these circumstances, and at this time, we discussed economic matters yesterday. This morning, we discussed military matters concerning the country's defense. Now, I came to this meeting to discuss something that is also of interest to the country. Naturally, we cannot ignore these topics, even if we are at war. We have not renounced the idea of providing health services to the people or providing the people with education, although we are convinced we cannot continue providing the people with education, health, or housing at the rate at which we have been providing these services in past years.

To speak of giving things to the people does not imply a paternal giving, but rather it means we provide the opportunity for the people to participate as initiators and actors in these activities. Let housing be built by the people, the people of the neighborhood, of the hamlet, of the town. Let them build the health centers and the schools, to fight our past tendency to have the institution, the ministry, and the government build the things the people need. Instead, the government, as the people's instrument, support the people wherever it can and will build what can be built. We have not renounced this.

We cannot renounce discussing topics such as those you have been broaching; they must move us to reflect based on our reality. I am totally in agreement with the discussion and must join the debate. I know I cannot agee with everyone's way of thinking [words indistinct]. The important thing is our broaching of the issues. The important thing is we can draw conclusions and thus promote actions even under these difficult situations Nicaragua is facing. I was telling the comrades one does not have to look at the demographic explosion issue in negative terms; it must be evaluated based on each country's specific reality and especially each country's process. If we follow economic logic... [changes thought] I was telling you if we acted based on economics, we would have to close schools and health centers because we simply do not have [words indistinct].

In other words, the schools, health centers, services, and defense itself are being paid through inflation. Thus, we would have to close all those centers. Therefore, it is not a matter of falling in extreme positions; instead, we must solve the problems by considering the specific reality. [passage omitted]

The brain drain phenomenon is a widely discussed issue that is not new to Latin America or to developing countries. Developing countries invest large sums to train technicians who eventually leave. After years and resources are invested in them, they seek work in developed capitalist countries. We cannot compete with the developed countries; we could never offer salaries comparable to theirs. Even countries such as Venezuela or Mexico, which have oil, or countries with resources such as Brazil or Argentina cannot equal the offers technicians receive from capitalist, market economy nations. This, in reality, is not a new problem, although the enemy wants to present it as a circumstantial element resulting from the revolution. [passage omitted]

These are the thoughts I wanted to share with you. I view this meeting as an important and positive step. I am also grateful for the support we have received from international forums, because they have given us the opportunity to discuss issues we fail to discuss at times and must be dealt with. What matters most is that by working and establishing long- and medium-term goals, we will be able to carry out joint activities in realistic terms while strengthening those of our long- and medium-term goals that must be strengthened. I hope these seminars will be followed by more meetings, not one but several, at which we can coordinate our ideas and offer new suggestions. We must not leave this problem hanging in the air. We must discuss it, coordinate our efforts, and take action. We must use the experience gained at this meeting to weigh and assess our situation. Thank you. [applause]

Cienfuegos-Led Cuban Delegation Visits Projects

PA2509145288 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 Sep 88 p 5

[Excerpts] Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz [industry and commerce minister] yesterday led a high-ranking Cuban delegation on a broad tour to inspect Nicaraguan development projects. Osmani Cienfuegos, minister-secretary of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers and member of the PCC Politburo, heads the Cuban delegation.

Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez welcomed Cienfuegos at the airport. Official sources revealed that the Cuban delegation's visit to our country will last 5 days.

Osmani Cienfuegos and his delegation learned of the major progress at the Victoria de Julio sugar mill. It is expected that in the 1988-89 period, the sugar harvest for this project will be approximately 35,000 tons, or the equivalent of 700,000 quintals. Raul Trujillo, first vice minister of the sugar industry, conveyed his country's readiness to continue providing support for the Victoria de Julio sugar mill, which has the support of the Cuban people and government.

The Cuban official added that the "Victoria de Julio sugar mill sets an example for the Latin American sugar industry." He noted the modern facilities and the high quality of the sugarcane harvest.

Industry and Commerce Minister Commander Carrion and the Cuban delegation also visited Pronto, a modern shoe factory in which Italy has made investments. [passage omitted]

Osmani Cienfuegos and his delegation visited the strategic Las Canoas project. The Cuban delegation comprises Celsio Carpio, vice minister of agriculture; Alberto Betancourt, vice minister of foreign trade; and Raul Trujillo.

With regard to this important project, the Cuban visitors observed the installation of water propellers to aid in the irrigation of the sugarcane during the planting season.

The Quimica Borden project was also visited during another part of the tour. The Cuban delegation asked several questions related to supplying raw materials for this project, which manufactures products in Nicaragua.

Yesterday afternoon, Minister Carrion and the Cuban delegation also visited the Polimeros de Centroamerica Company (Policasa). There they learned about important aspects relating to the manufacture of plastic products needed for industries and the development of economic projects.

Panama

Solis Departs for UN General Assembly 25 Sep

Noriega 'Might' Come

PA2309134888 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 23 Sep 88 pp 1, 22

[Text] It has been reported to this newspaper that General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, might accompany Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, on Solis Palma's trip to the UN General Assembly.

This information was given to CRITICA by a source who is usually reliable. Our source also told us that the Panamanian delegation might leave for New York on Sunday.

As everybody knows, Solis Palma has been invited by the United Nations to participate in the General Assembly sessions that began a few days ago. He is to deliver the main speech on 27 September.

Solis Palma will take the opportunity to report to the United Nations and to the world on the abuses and aggressions that the U.S. Government has been perpetrating against the Panamanian people.

The world's nations want a report on the background and results of the economic blockade imposed by the Yankees on Panama, which has as its sole purpose the subjugation of a small nation and the perpetuation of the U.S. military presence in Panama.

'Respect' Demanded on Visas

PA2309153288 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 23 Sep 88 p 4

[Editorial: "More Respect, Yankees!"]

[Text] The Republic of Panama has the honor of being one of the 51 charter members of the United Nations, which was founded in 1945 after the fearful antifascist battle that lasted from 1939 to the middle of that same year, 1945. We were among the allied nations, and we fought against the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo axis. This gives us a high level of moral authority to demand that neither the president of the Republic nor any other worthy Panamanian be subjected to the miserable pettiness of a transit visa. Moreover, such a visa is quite unnecessary, because technically President Solis Palma and his illustrious delegation are not traveling to the United States, but to the site of the UN General Assembly.

Other international situations of this type have been resolved with good faith and through the application of formal logic; for example, a person traveling to the Vatican city-state travels through the city of Rome as a transit point.

The Panamanian delegation headed by the president of the Republic is technically in transit from the airport or airports of entry to the city that is home to the United Nations. Therefore, it is unspeakable that there should be a delay in the issuance of the respective courtesy visa, which must be granted in accordance with the democratic spirit of the United Nations and with existing legal provisions that allow even U.S. adversaries to have permanent missions at the United Nations. We demand respect for the authorities of the Republic of Panama, who are traveling to the United Nations for Tuesday's session. More respect, Yankees!

Ritter: Visas Approved

PA2409002188 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2326 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] During an impromptu news conference, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter said today that the Panamanian president will travel to the United Nations since the granting of the [U.S.] visas was guaranteed today.

Ritter said no contacts with the Reagan administration are planned during the Panamanian president's visit to the United States. Ritter reiterated that the U.S. State Department authorized the issuance of the visas to the Panamanian delegation. According to Leonardo Kam, chief of the Panamanian mission to the United Nations, the visas will be delivered in due time.

Regarding Panamanian President Manuel Solis Palma's agenda at the United Nations, Ritter said:

[Begin recording] [Ritter] Solis Palma will denounce the U.S. economic aggression against Panama as well as all its consequences. He will also denounce the way in which that aggression has destroyed the Panamanian economy and harmed the Panamanian people. In addition, he will denounce the frequent violations of the canal treaties and the clear U.S. intention of keeping their military bases in Panama beyond the year 2000, which is a violation of the canal treaties.

[Reporter] What can you tell us about the upcoming Group of Eight meeting and the role Panama will play in that meeting? Panama was removed from the group and will only join it again when the Panamanian crisis is solved.

[Ritter] No, it is not that Panama cannot return to that group until the Panamanian crisis is solved; Panama's return to the group is a more or less subjective decision. It was agreed that Panama would return to the group when its situation is clarified. That decision now depends on the subjective opinion of each of the members of that group. They will have to define what it means to clarify the Panamanian situation.

The Group of Eight will meet in New York and then they will hold a summit in October. In one of those two meetings, the group will have to make a decision concerning Panama. No decision has been made yet. [end recording]

Solis Departure Comments

PA2609011288 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2315 GMT 25 Sep 88

[Text] Panama City, 25 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Panama's Acting President Manuel Solis Palma left for New York today to deliver a speech at the UN General Assembly on Tuesday after receiving a U.S. visa at practically the last minute.

Before leaving, Solis Palma and Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter criticized the delay in obtaining the visas and the announced decision of the U.S. mission at the United Nations to walk out of the General Assembly during the speech of the Panamanian president, whom Washington does not recognize.

Solis Palma characterized this gesture as a "clear demonstration of dishonesty" that the United States uses in some of its foreign affairs dealings. Ritter said that it is "an expression of arrogance that is typical of the present U.S. Administration."

The acting president of Panama, who has left the country for the first time since he was appointed on 26 February to replace Eric Arturo Delvalle, said that the "greatest achievement of the trip is in the single fact of going (to the United Nations) and being recognized by the world as the constitutional president."

The United States, which continues to recognize Delvalle as the president of Panama, delayed granting the visas until 48 hours before Solis Palma and his delegation were scheduled to leave and denied a visa to Luis Gaspar Suarez, leader of the progovernment Revolutionary Panamenist Party.

"Strongman" General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Defense Forces of Panama, did not accompany Solis Palma, in spite of the fact that some of the progovernment press reported that he would.

Ritter told the press before leaving on a commercial Ecuadoran airline this afternoon that it was thought that Noriega would go, but that the United States was not even asked to give him a visa.

The U.S. Government said when it imposed economic sanctions and attached Panamanian funds last March that it would not allow any of the principal officials of the Noriega and Solis Palma government into the United States

Solis Palma said that in his speech at the United Nations, he will report the U.S. "aggressions" and invoke the "solidarity" of the international community for all small countries that could experience situations similar to that of Panama, but he said that the principal purpose of his trip is to present himself as the legitimate ruler of Panama to the United Nations General Assembly.

"We are not going to beg," Solis Palma said, adding that he has no contacts planned in New York with U.S. officials, although he would be prepared to meet with U.S. officials if the United States requested such a meeting.

Solis Palma was accompanied by Ritter, three party leaders from the government coalition, two diplomats, and a group of security guards, "because we are not certain that we are going to have protection there," he explained.

In another statement to the press before he left, Solis Palma said that if the United States does not understand the challenge of the Soviet Union's "perestroyka" and consequently does not change its behavior, "the future of U.S. capitalism" will be in doubt.

'Secret' Meeting Between Bush, Noriega Denied

PA2509182888 Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish 25 Sep 88 p 4A

[Editorial: "New Act of Disinformation"]

[Text] A British television station recently showed a photograph of an alleged "secret" meeting between U.S. Vice President George Bush and General Manuel Antonio Noriega. According to the false report broadcast by that station, Bush complained to Gen Noriega about alleged Panamanian complicity in the "laundering" of drug trafficking money.

Some Panamanian "contra" agents, among whom the British television station mentioned Roberto Melanio Diaz and Jose Isabel Blandon, maliciously contributed to this crude lie.

The highly immoral and slanderous attitude of those individuals and the disinformation campaign they serve become evident through an examination of the photograph shown as alleged "proof" of the so-called "secret" meeting, which was taken during a protocol ceremony prior to Bush's departure from Panama following his 1983 official visit.

U.S. Ambassador Everett Briggs and several Panamanian officials are also seen in the picture, which was taken at the Omar Torrijos Airport's Protocol Room. Local and foreign reporters covered the departure ceremony with great interest, as Bush's visit took place when Panama had just become a member of the Contadora Group.

Latin American journalists accredited in Panama at that time clearly remember the occasion, because they filed a formal protest over Bush's refusal to answer their questions. The visitor only answered questions from three U.S. correspondents and evaded questions regarding the key issue at that time, which was the Contadora Group's initiative.

The photograph now seen in London was distributed in 1983 by Panama's presidential Press Office and was published in several national and foreign newspapers. However, now agents of the local "contras" and their U.S. superiors have clipped part of the photograph showing Gen Noriega and Bush in order to claim that it was taken during a "secret" meeting that in fact never took place.

The lie is so blatant that after the false report was broadcast from the UK, one of the main U.S. news agencies sent a message to its clients asking them not to publish it because its contents were obviously unfounded.

Opposition Party Members, Others Arrested

PA2309220988 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2115 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Panama City, 23 Sep (ACAN-EFE)— Five members of the largest Panamanian opposition party, the Authentic Panamenist Party (PPA); three members of a leftist movement; a high school director; and a businessman have been arrested in the last 24 hours, according to reports given to ACAN-EFE today by relatives and political leaders.

Legislator Marcos Alarcon, leader of the PPA and the teachers labor union, said Jose Carmen Serracin, Mario Tunon, Doris Elena Murillo, Reimara Clemant, and Ivan de Obaldia, all PPA members, were arrested this morning in different parts of the capital.

The Socialist Workers Party (PST), a Trotskiyist party, in a communique delivered to ACAN-EFE today, also reported the arrest of PST members Hernan Luque, Raymundo Collado, and Roberto Mendez.

According to PST leaders, Luque is currently being held by the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] intelligence service, and the other two are being held under arrest at Modelo Prison.

Professor Diana del Rio Batres, director of a Panama City high school, was also arrested today. The reason for her arrest and her whereabouts are currently unknown, according to her relatives.

Yesterday afternoon, businessman Alberto Conte, president of the National Journalists Union and member of the opposition National Civic Crusade, was arrested for allegedly scheming against state security, according to his wife, Rita de Conte.

For the past 2 weeks, students, labor unions, and public employees have staged antigovernment protests, which in some cases have resulted in clashes with FDP units and have included various arrests.

Last night, the Education Ministry, because of the incidents, ordered the closing of 12 high schools for an indefinite length of time. The suspension of classes for today was also announced by the University of Panama, the largest school in the country.

Charges Filed

PA2409001088 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Four Panamanians—two men and two women—have been turned over to the appropriate authorities and charged with being involved in a subversive movement that attacks the security of the state. In fact, the state security services recently dismantled [desactivar] a clandestine movement sponsored by the United States and directed by former officers of the Panama Defense Forces—Eduardo Herrera, Moises Del Rio, and Augusto Villalaz.

Among the people arrested, who are directly involved in this subversive movement and were carrying out actions that have been confirmed and that endanger the security of the Panamanian state, are Alberto Conte, Giovanni Carlucci Paredes, Diana Del Rio de Batres, and Dilsa Espino de Reynolds.

These people are involved with the former officers who are directing in the United States the clandestine 16 March Active Movement and the National Conciliation Movement [Movimiento de Concordia Nacional].

Arms Uncovered

PA2409025788 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0146 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] This is a last-minute report.

During an operation last night, 22 September, state security organizations seized a considerable amount of firearms, confiscated folders with information on the Authentic Panamenist Party youth organization, and arrested PPA members who were planning to carry out guerrilla activities in Panama City and in the country's interior. Reports add that following a 3-month investigation, 14 Panamanian citizens, PPA members who formed part of a group called National Patriotic Committee [Comite Patriotico Nacional], were arrested in a raid by state security corps. This group's goal was to seize political power of the Panamanian state through violent methods, including the establishment of guerrilla cells.

Among the arrested are: Ivan Mojica, who was in charge of the group's operations; Carlos Paris; and Jose del Carmen Serracin, who was responsible for logistical and administrative support. These three activists were captured together with other individuals while they were planning some actions in apartment No 341 on the fourth floor of the Atalaya Building on Ricardo J. Alfaro Avenue.

In their preliminary statements, the arrested individuals confessed they were organized under an extensive national network with contacts abroad including, among others, former President of the Republic Eric Arturo Delvalle and former Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo Herrera Hassan. They established such contacts through travels on several occasions to Costa Rica and Mexico.

In addition to the firearms, maps of the Republic of Panama and Panama City—marked with government installations and Panama Defense Forces garrisons—were found during the raid on the apartment.

Thanks to the confiscated material, the authorities confirmed the implementation of a seed plan [plan semilla], which consisted of the recruitment of youths willing to train in places far from Panama City, like Chepo, which offers an adequate environment for that type of activity.

In addition, the authorities discovered that the group called the National Patriotic Committee is financed by prominent opposition figures, including Legislator Francisco Artola and Jacobo Salas, who were slyly providing money to purchase weapons and medicine. Some of those items were bought in Miami, to where Mojica and Serracin have been traveling lately.

In addition to the apartment that was searched, which is owned by Aracelis Morales Batista, the group also met at Jorge Sabal's house in San Miguelito and at house No G-29 in La Pulida neighborhood.

It is important to point out that according to the investigations, Jose Serracin was in constant contact with Isaac Rodriguez, secretary general of the IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] labor union, an organization that was part of the plan, which also involved members of the Christian Democratic Party, the Civic Crusade, and the teacher's sector.

Among those involved in the aforementioned plan, the authorities also listed Alberto Mackay, a professor at the University of Panama School of Geography, and Socimo Guardia, who provided all the maps found at the apartment that was searched.

The investigations continue while the people involved in the plan are detained and at the disposition of the Assistant Prosecutor's Office.

It is expected that as the investigation unfolds, the names of more people involved in this macabre plan will be released.

The names of the people who have been arrested thus far are: Gustavo Adolfo Gomez Munoz, Cordoba Navarro, Mario Alberto Tunon Rodriguez, Florinda Alvarado Marciaga, Carlos Ernesto Paris Tack, Dawuit Bryner Prado G., Doris Perla Villarreal, Araceli Derfors Morales Batista, Boris Alberto Vasquez Gonzalez, Jose Antonio Acosta Castillo, Isidro Rodriguez Martinez, Leonor Murillo Gonzalez, Mercedes Cruz Apudac, Ivan Mojica Guerra, Reinar Alberto Clement, and Jose Del Carmen Serracin.

In addition, other reports released today revealed that four Panamanians—two women and two men—are being held by the appropriate authorities for their involvement in a rebel movement, which was attempting to disrupt the security of the state.

In fact, state security agents recently dismantled a clandestine movement sponsored by the United States and led by former Panama Defense Forces officers Eduardo Herrera Hassan, Moises del Rio, and Augusto Villalaz.

Among the people arrested who were directly involved in the rebel movement and conducting confirmed actions against the security of the state are Alberto Conte M., Giovanni Carlucci Paredes, Diana del Rio de Batres, and Dilsa Espino de Reynolds.

These people are linked with the former FDP officers who—from the United States—are leading the following clandestine movements: 16 March Active Movement, A16M, and the National Conciliation Movement, MCN.

PPA Refutes Charges

PA2409191788 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1845 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Panama City, 24 Sep (DPA)—The Authentic Panamenist Party, Panama's largest opposition party, today refuted charges made by the Panama Defense Forces Intelligence Service that several PPA members were "guerrillas."

The FDP issued a communique accusing PPA members Boris Murillo, Jose Acosta, Leo Murillo, Ivan Mojica (former member of Arnulfo Arias' personal security guard), Jorge Cordoba, Reimar Clement, Jose Serracin (a top leader), Boris Vasquez, Ernesto Paris, Trinidad Morales, Aracelis Morales, and David Brener of planning guerrilla activities. [passage omitted]

PPA leaders issued a communique charging that the arrest of PPA members is an attempt by the FDP leadership to meddle in the reorganization the party plans to carry out following the death of its leader and president, Arnulfo Arias Madrid.

It was also reported that PPA lawyers were about to file a writ of habeas corpus to get the party members released.

Journalist's Release Demanded

PA2509140288 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 25 Sep 88 p 1

[Text] Various organizations, including the Association of Panamanian Industrialists [SIP] and the Inter-American Press Association, have asked for the release of publicist and journalist Alberto B. Conte, who was arrested by the authorities last week.

The SIP described Conte's arrest as a "brazen outrage" and the IAPA believes that it represents a violation of freedom of the press.

The IAPA expressed its protest to President Solis Palma and General Noriega.

Technological University Suspends Classes 23 Sep

PA2309172488 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1651 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Communique issued by the Technological University of Panama in Panama City on 23 September]

[Text] In view of the temporary closing of the Octavio Mendez Pereira University campus and other educational institutions where our classes are held, the rector of the Technological University of Panama reports that classes have been suspended today, Friday, 23 September.

[Signed] Rector Dr Victor Levy Sasso

Argentina

Congressmen Meet UK MP's at IPU Conference

PY2309144388 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0026 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Sep (DYN)—British MP's participating in the IPU Conference in Bulgaria today warned their Argentine counterparts that "it is useless to expect changes in the UK policy regarding the Malvinas Islands until 1991," when Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's term in office will end.

The MP's conveyed this warning during an informal meeting considered "cordial and positive," during which they also proposed to hold in London, in September 1989, "a televised debate broadcast simultaneously to the two countries" so that the public will be able to learn the Argentine and British points of view.

The following congressmen participated in the conference held in Bulgaria: for Argentina, Senators Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen, Julio Amoedo, and Adolfo Gass, and Justicialist Deputy Ramon Puerta; for the United Kingdom, Conservative Michael Marshall, Hugh Dyket, Michael Clark, and Labor Party member Ted Rowlands.

At the end of the meeting, the Argentine congressmen, although they acknowledged the cordial nature of the meeting, stated: "We have not received any positive sign from the British deletation."

The report sent to Buenos Aires by an Argentine congressional journalist states that the two delegations have "reiterated their positions." The Argentines demanded the inclusion of the sovereignty issue in the negotiations, while the British MP's insisted on holding talks "on matters of mutual interest, so that we can come, eventually, to the point of concretely talking about the Malvinas."

Daily Says Castro To Visit Country in March

PY2309124688 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1154 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] A Buenos Aires daily today said Cuban President Fidel Castro will visit Argentina next March.

AMBITO FINANCIERO published a brief report on its front page saying, among other things, that "President Fidel Castro will visit Argentina next March."

The visit of the Cuban president, if it takes place, will be in return for President Raul Alfonsin's visit to Havana in October 1986. Alfonsin visited Cuba for 24 hours on that occasion.

Castro's last visit to Argentina was in 1959, 29 years ago, a few months after the victory of the Cuban revolution, during President Frondizi's administration.

Ministry 'Not Aware' of Visit

PY2309190188 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1622 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Sep (NA)—Sources at the Argentine Foreign Ministry and the Cuban Embassy today agreed that they are not aware of a possible visit by President Fidel Castro to Argentina next March.

A Cuban Embassy spokesman said: "We at the Cuban Embassy do not know anything."

An Argentine Foreign Ministry source said an official announcement of such importance is never made so far in advance.

The daily AMBITO FINANCIERO published a brief report on the front page of today's issue saying "President Fidel Castro will visit Argentina in March of next year."

Alfonsin Meets Widow of Former Chilean President

PY2409005288 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1953 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Sep (NA)—Hortensia Bussi de Allende, widow of Chile's last constitutional president, Salvador Allende, returned to Chile today after 15 years in exile. Hortensia Bussi made a short stopover in Buenos Aires yesterday, where she was received by President Raul Alfonsin.

Allende's widow confirmed that she met with Alfonsin in a note she read at Ezeiza International Airport before boarding the plane that took her back to Chile at 1045. In her country, Hortensia Bussi will vote "No" in the 5 October plebiscite that will decide whether or not de facto President Pinochet will remain in office.

"I thank President Alfonsin for his kindness in receiving me privately," Hortensia Bussi said before leaving for Chile, where she "will support the Chilean people in their attempt to recover their freedom and dignity."

"In this fight," she said, "I feel Salvador Allende's presence, and realize that, more than ever before, the people still love and admire him. Our daughters, grandchildren, and I, myself, have tried to keep alive the image of my husband as a real democrat and an example of consistent love for Chile."

Hortensia Bussi traveled to Chile with her oldest daughter, Carmen Paz, and Jose Luis Manzano, chief of the Justicialist Party bloc at the Chamber of Deputies. Hortensia Bussi spent the last 15 years in Mexico, "a country that sheltered me during these 15 painful years of exile, and showed me the solidarity of its people. Now, I am proud to call Mexico my second home."

Salvador Allende's widow was exiled in September 1973, when the bloody coup d'etat headed by President Pinochet ousted and killed Salvador Allende, who was elected president by the Popular Unity, a coalition of leftist parties.

"Today, on this last leg of my definitive return to Chile, I leave Argentine terrritory, the ground of this brotherly nation that generously sheltered thousands and thousands of Chileans who were forced to leave their fatherland."

Hortensia Bussi concluded by expressing thanks for "the solidarity of the Argentine people, its democratic parties, and its government with the struggle of the Chilean people in their effort to reestablish democracy in their country."

Review of Trade Accords With USSR Planned

PY2409035788 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0023 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Sep (TELAM)—Next month Argentina and the Soviet Union will review their current commercial commitments in light of each country's economy.

During a meeting held today between Trade Under Secretary Daniel Berdou and Deputy Trade Minister [title as received] Yuriy Chumakov, it was decided the Joint Argentine-Soviet Commission will meet in Moscow 24-28 October.

According to information obtained at the Industry and Foreign Trade Secretariat, the possibility of having both countries modify the list of products they want to acquire will be discussed at that meeting.

Efforts will then be made to change the terms of the 5-year agreement, signed in 1985, which stipulated volumes for the purchase of Argentine grains and Soviet-made goods and equipment.

Today the head of the National Grain Board revealed that in the last 3 years there has been a considerable decrease in purchases the Soviet Union should have made. Under the agreement now in force, the Soviets should have imported 4 million tons of wheat and corn and 500,000 tons of soybeans per year.

In the opinion of Nestor Niell, the multiyear agreements need periodic revisions, making them more flexible so that they can be complied with.

The Soviet mission, headed by Deputy Minister Yuriy Chumakov, met with National Grain Board officials. It was agreed that the October meeting will be a good time to determine the volumes of winter grain purchases by the Soviet Union, and the January meeting a good time to discuss the sale of soybean.

According to Argentine officials, the total volume of Soviet purchases (4.5 million tons) will not be changed, but its composition could be subtantially modified, reducing the purchases of wheat, corn, and sorghum and increasing those of beans and soybean pellets.

Jaunarena, Crespo Leave for U.S. Talks on Plane

PY2509211488 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Sep 88 p 15

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN)—Defence Minister Horacio Jaunarena and Air Force Chief-of-Staff Brigadier Ernesto Crespo travelled late Friday night to the United States, in order to hold talks with U.S. authorities on the possible sale of the Argentine training aircraft IA-63 "Pampa". A group of Argentine pilots left Cordoba for the U.S. last Tuesday. They will be in charge of carrying out demonstrations, and similar exhibitions in Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru and Colombia in a bid to sell the plane to all those countries. [passage omitted]

Bordersohn Leaves To Attend Berlin IMF Meeting

PY2409125388 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Finance Secretary Mario Brodersohn left for Berlin this afternoon to join the official delegation that will attend the IMF-World Bank meeting. The Argentine delegation is led by Economy Minister Juan Vital Sourrouille, who arrived in Berlin this afternoon, after a stopover in Frankfurt, and held a meeting with World Bank Vice President (Montiun), who offered him dinner. [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Foreign Minister To Attend UN General Assembly

PY2409200788 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez will leave for the United Nations to participate in the discussions regarding problems affecting the international community.

The minister will leave at 1000 this morning on an Eastern flight. He will be accompanied by his Cabinet chief (Neri Carrazco). In New York he will meet with Bolivian Ambassador to the United Nations Hugo Navajas and other Bolivian representatives.

The foreign minister stated that the Bolivian Government's objective is to present its point of view regarding international issues.

Planning, Finance Ministers To Leave for Berlin

PY2409200688 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Planning and Coordination Minister Orlando Romero and Finance Minister Ramiro Cabezas will leave today for Berlin to participate in the meeting of IMF and World Bank governors.

The ministers intend to meet with representatives of creditor nations in an effort to refinance the foreign debt. [passage indistinct]

The Bolivian ministers intend to hold talks seeking the future renegotiation of the bilateral debt in the Paris Club meeting that will be held on 24 October 1988.

Brazil

Assembly Members Sign Final Text of Constitution

PY2409035988 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2250 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] The Constituent Assembly members have signed their names to the text of the constitution after having spent almost 20 months drafting the new laws of the country.

The Black Room of the National Congress was filled with people attending the signing ceremony.

A ceremony launching a document that was written by 559 different authors naturally had to be attended by lots of people. Constituent Assembly President Ulysses Guimaraes, coordinator Bernardo Cabral, and the leaders of almost all parties attended the ceremony in a brotherly mood.

Each Constituent Assembly member had to sign his name 10 times—2 signatures for each of the 5 original copies, which will be sent to the National File, to the Presidency, to the Federal Supreme Court, to the Chamber of Deputies, and to the Senate.

Ulysses Guimaraes was simply lending his prestige to the ceremony. He will only sign the text of the new constitution during the solemn ceremony that will promulgate it on 5 October.

[Begin Guimaraes recording] We have finally completed a text that will undoubtedly mean progress, development, and better social conditions for the country. Brazil will improve after the promulgation of the constitution. [end recording]

This will be the longest document-launching ceremony in history. It starts today and will end in a week. Until then, the authors of this great and controversial work will have written on these copies a total of 5,590 signatures. The work is guaranteed a place in Brazilian history.

After the ceremony, Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes went straight to the Alvorada Palace to meet with President Sarney and discuss the details of the ceremony for the promulgation of the constitution on 5 October.

They will also discuss President Sarney's upcoming trip to the USSR. Guimaraes will again be acting president, this time for 10 days—from 14 to 24 October.

Defense Council Replaces Security Council

PY2309142688 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Sep 88 p B-3

[Text] Brasilia—Yesterday, at the same time the Planalto Palace announced during a meeting that the government was suspending the moratorium on the foreign debt, the National Security Council (CSN) ended its activities. The CSN will be replaced by the National Defense Council [Conselho de Defesa Nacional] (CDN). The CDN will be a strictly consultative body of the Presidency of the Republic for matters concerning "national sovereignty and the defense of the democratic state."

The expression "national security," so dear to the military governments and included in the 1934 Constitution, will disappear from the chapter on "Organization of Powers" when the new constitution is promulgated on 5 October.

The CDN will include the ministers of justice, foreign relations, and planning, the military ministers, and the presidents of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. The CSN included all cabinet ministers and the vice president of the Republic. The role of the president of the Republic, who headed the CSN, was not determined by the new constitution.

General Rubens Bayma Denys, chief of the military household of the Presidency, who used to be CSN secretary general, yesterday issued a declaration through the Presidential Public Relations Office, stating that he agrees with the approval by the national Congress of a law regulating the organization and operation of the new council. The minister wants to maintain a consultative body with the same characteristics as the former body.

Possible Breach in Computer Science Preservation

PY2309132588 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Sep 88 p 40

[Text] Brasilia—Raymundo Nonato Botelho de Noronha, the legal adviser of the Presidency and author of the proposal favoring the Semikron Semicondutores Enterprise, which has been taken up by Saulo Ramos, the overall adviser of the Presidency, has stressed that if the entire document is approved by President Jose Sarney it could mean the Special Secretariat of Informatics (SEI) will be able to authorize technological joint ventures [preceding two words in English] within the sector. Although this is debatable, depending on how the proposal is interpreted,

the possibility is acknowledged by reliable SEI sources, who have observed "a breach" in the preservation policy within the computer science sector.

Noronha's proposal, which was published yesterday in the Official Bulletin with the president's "approval," considers the Semikron Semicondutores Enterprise to be a national company, which has similar companies with the same name in 16 countries, all of which are controlled by the same majority shareholder. In addition to discussing the concept of what a national company is, the proposal also redefines the concept of technological control.

The proposal states that dependency on a foreign technological source will be determined by an evaluation of the manufacturing project of the company, thus preventing a pure and simple prohibition without a detailed evaluation of the project. Such an evaluation has already been done by two SEI technical missions, but it has been annulled by the proposal.

This decision has caused a lot of discontent, to such an extent that Special Informatics Secretary Jose Ezil Veiga da Rocha, who is generally very accessible to the press, refused to make any comment. The opening that the proposal offers for the creation of technological joint ventures appears to have embittered the secretariat's personnel. In his proposal, Noronha cites the opinion of Fabio Konder Comparato, who evaluates the concept of technological control, "and he also rightly acknowledges that Article 12 of the Computer Science Law does not prohibit so-called joint ventures."

Thus, it is the adviser's opinion that the SEI has lost its main argument against joint ventures and that it must now interpret Article 12 in the light of the proposal of the overall adviser of the presidency, which has been approved by President Jose Sarney himself.

CGT To Join Labor-Business Talks on Inflation

PY2409180488 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] The General Central Organization of Workers, CGT, has decided to participate in the labor-business talks for an anti-inflationary pact.

Three members of the CGT executive board will join the negotiations for an anti-inflationary pact. This was decided yesterday in Brasilia during a national meeting of all CGT labor unions, which represent 30 million workers.

CGT President Joaquim dos Santos de Andrade said the organization is prepared to discuss many issues at the negotiating table. The main issues are the maintenance of purchasing power, the elimination of the URP [price reference unit] for the monthly correction of salaries, the control of inflation through economic growth, and a new approach to the foreign debt.

Andrade said it is very important that the government participate in the pact; otherwise, it would be a bilateral agreement. He thinks the government must contribute to the pact by guaranteeing to curb inflation.

The CGT leader thinks the governemnt should freeze public utility rates as a first step toward curbing inflation.

Police Arrest Drug Traffickers in Santa Catarina

PY2409181788 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] The police of Santa Catarina State last night confiscated a van with 1 ton of marijuana at a gas station in Barra Velha, in the northern part of the state. The drug was being carried under a load of wood in a Fiat truck with license plates from President Prudente, Sao Paulo. The truck was traveling from Ponta Pora, Mato Grosso do Sul, to Joinville, Santa Catarina.

The police arrested the driver, Walter Lima, and two drug traffickers—(Snif Forte) and Waldemar Caetano. According to the police, they are two of the biggest drug traffickers in southern Brazil.

Briefs

January-July Public Deficit

Treasury Secretary Luis Antonio Goncalves has reported that the January-July 1988 public deficit totaled 0.75 percent of the GDP. This figure is lower than the government expected. The secretary believes the public deficit this year will not surpass 4 percent. Despite this fact, however, the government still has not decided whether it will pay the public employees the May URP [Price Reference Unit] this year. [Summary] [*PY2409133588 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Sep 88*]

Chile

Merino Scorns Teitelboim Remarks on Plebiscite

PY2309040188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Passages within quotation marks as recorded]

[Text] Outlawed PCCh leader Volodia Teitelboim has said that if the No-vote wins, a provisional government should be established on the evening of the same day, and that if the Yes option wins, it will be a fraud. This means that this faithful representative of one of the world's most strongly dictatorial doctrines will reject the rules of the free democratic game. Incidentally, he has reiterated his criticism of the opposition coalition designed, planned, and formed by the Christian Democratic party [PDC], which gathered six insignificant groups that play a secondary role.

While he was abroad, Teitelboim worked for Radio Moscow, where he systematically attacked the government. Now that he is back in Chile, thanks to a government measure, he is holding news conferences.

Navy Commander in Chief Admiral Jose Toribio Merino said that if cows could speak, Teitelboim's remarks would have no more merit than a statement by a cow. Merino made this remark when asked about recent statements by Teitelboim, who said that if the Yes-vote wins, it will be the result of a fraud.

Merino spoke after presiding over a regular congressional session at the Diego Portales building.

"Mr Teitelboim left Chile 15 years ago. (?If he left) Chile, it surely was not because his conscience was clean. To me, his remarks about what should or should not be done are as important as what a cow would say under the influence of a magician. His remarks are totally worthless."

Merino added that compliance with the law will be ensured on the day of the plebiscite, that is, on 5 October, and that the Armed Forces will ensure that the event takes place with absolute honesty.

"I tell all Chileans, without any political preference, I address all Chileans, from the 5-year-old children to the oldest persons who can (?understand me), that the electoral and plebiscite laws will be strictly complied with on 5 October. The Armed Forces have the responsibility to ensure that the plebiscite is held with absolute honesty. From the viewpoint of our professional background and our conscience, this type of thing should be held in absolute compliance with the law and regulations. No other type of activity will be allowed—either terrorist, or revolutionary, no matter what. The full weight of the law will fall on those who seek to stage these types of actions, and those responsible will be brought before the courts."

Merino recalled that Communists want chaos for the country, adding that a few days before the military proclamation of 1973, President Salvador Allende confessed to him that the country was actually being governed by the Communists.

"The PCCh is clearly seeking to promote disorder and return to what we went through in August and September 1973, when one could not go out on the streets. For as you should remember, at that time the (?subway) was being built and the mobs threw stones at passersby, broke windows in vehicles, and destroyed private property. There was considerable disorder. Mr Allende, with whom I had lunch on 7 September 1973, clearly told me that he was not the person who was governing Chile; rather, it was being run by Mr Teitelboim, the short-legged, and Mr [name indistinct]."

Merino concluded by saying that the former aides to the government who are now in the opposition harbor resentment because they expected to be designated to ministerial or ambassadorial posts, and since they were not so designated they are now opposing the government.

Government Says Communists Planning Violence

PY2509011988 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1844 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Santiago, 24 Sep (DYN)—Today President Augusto Pinochet's administration charged the outlawed Communist Party with planning violent actions to lead the Chileans into clashes with the government during the 5 October plebiscite.

The official communique stated that the government has received reliable intelligence on these plans and warned that the government will take all necessary steps to protect the people.

In the 5 October plebiscite, the Chileans will vote for or against Pinochet's remaining in office until 1997.

No-Vote Command To Rally in Santiago 24 Sep

PY2309192288 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] The independent Command for the No-Vote, which is headed by lawyer Alejandro Hales, has called on all people of Santiago to attend a rally that will begin at 1500 tomorrow, at Lavandera Park. During this rally the musical groups Inti-Illimani and Illapu will make their first public appearance after a lengthy period in exile.

Luis Hermosilla, secretary general of the Command for the No-Vote, has read a note in this regard: We invite all Chileans—men, women, and the youth—to celebrate happily and calmly the victory that, with effort and dedication, we are about to achieve.

To guarantee this victory we must remain united and maintain discipline in the face of any possible provocation by our ever-unidentified enemies. We must try to avoid working freely for the dictatorship and its communications media.

We are confident that discipline will prevail in this day of happiness. Our great commitment today is to express happily our conviction that we are going to win.

The access to Lavandera Park will be through Santa Rosa and the Great Avenues. The rally will begin tomorrow at 1500 with a performance by the group Illapu. Then Alejandro Hales will deliver his political speech. The rally will conclude with a performance by the group Inti-Illimani.

PDC Groups Support Yes-Vote; New Movement Formed
PY2309160588 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] A large sector of former leaders and militants of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] from Macul District have decided to unite in support of the Yes-vote in the plebiscite. They will be part of the PDC for the Yes-vote group, following the example of other party members from other Chilean regions.

This was announced by (Jose Weinstein), president of the Macul Civic Committee, who said that as the plebiscite approaches, more political forces are joining the Yes-vote. Our group is formed of Macul District residents who are disappointed with the opposition political groups that are incapable of appreciating an option for a better future for Chile, (Weinstein) said.

Meanwhile, PDC leaders in northern Chile have announced—in what was labeled a rebellion within the party—the formation of the Social and Democratic Movement of the North [Movimiento Democratico y Social del Norte—MODENO].

This was announced during a news conference in Santiago by Luis Gallardo, El Loa Province PDC secretary, and PDC militants Richard Castro and Manuel Vidal.

[Begin Gallardo recording] We have formed the MODENO because of the clamor for democracy of northern grassroots organizations that do not agree the PDC should once again be manipulated by the left and the extreme left, and because the PDC leadership presided over by Patricio Aylwin did not listen to our petition for a return to the doctrinal and historical roots of the PDC, whose philosophical characteristics we uphold above any tendency toward the left or right. [end recording]

Gallardo accused the PDC leadership of jeopardizing the party's existence by joining a coalition of parties that in practice is headed by groups of the left and extreme left.

MIR Leader on Plebiscite Strategy, Struggle
PY2309154188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] The illegal, Communist MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left]—which committed murders during Eduardo Frei's administration, killed 100 people during Allende's 2-year and 310-day administration, and has murdered Armed Forces members over the past 15 years—has called on the people to provoke a split within the Army and to oust President Pinochet from power by any means.

This singular declaration was made by MIR leader Nelson Gutierrez in Mexico City. He said that the revolutionary struggle will continue in Chile, whatever the result of the plebiscite.

He added that if the No-vote wins, the current Constitution must not be simply reformed, but replaced. Another strategy could be to cause a split within the Army, Gutierrez said. The MIR is currently a member of the Command for the No-Vote for the next plebiscite.

Allende's Widow Returns; Met by 'Thousands'
PY2409200988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1728 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Santiago, 24 Sep (EFE)—Hortensia Bussi, widow of the last constitutional president, Socialist Salvador Allende, who has become a living symbol of the Chilean opposition to General Augusto Pinochet's military regime, returned to Chile at noon today.

Hortensia Bucci, 74, arrived in Santiago on board a regularly scheduled Iberia flight from Mexico, after a 24-hour stopover in Buenos Aires. She was accompanied by daughter Carmen Paz and a small group of friends and relatives.

Bucci was met at the international airport in Santiago by thousands of people, most of them supporters of the former Popular Unity government headed by her husband. [passage omitted]

Minister Garcia Departs for New York, UNGA
PY2309140588 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia traveled to new York last night to participate in the 43d UN General Assembly, which will be presided over this year by Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo.

Garcia will address the UN General Assembly on 29 September, with particular reference to the Chilean institutional process and the upcoming plebiscite.

On 28 September Minister Garcia will meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to discuss bilateral issues.

Garcia traveled with his Cabinet Chief Carlos del Rio, and they will return to Chile on 30 September.

Finance Minister Buchi Departs for Berlin
PY2309193088 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Finance Minister Herman Buchi has traveled to Berlin to participate in the annual IMF and World Bank meeting, which will take place there from 27 to 29 September. A thousand delegates and observers, including finance ministers and central bank presidents from 151 countries, will participate in the meeting. They will analyze the foreign debt problem of the developing countries and the coordination of the political and economic policies of the great industrialized countries.

The 27 September meeting will be held on the finance minister level, and it will be opened by IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus and World Bank President Barber Conable.

Bomb Attack in Quilpue, Radio Station Occupied

PY2509034888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0014 GMT 25 Sep 88

[Text] Santiago, 24 Sep (EFE)—Police today reported that two people were slightly injured last night when a bomb exploded near a lamp post in Quilpue, some 100 km northwest of Santiago.

Police also reported that members of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) occupied a radio station in Quilpue to broadcast a subversive message.

Police sources reported that Renato Lattino Guerrero, 71, was hit on the head by shrapnel when the bomb exploded, and the explosion also broke the windows of several homes.

The name of the other person who was only slightly injured was not reported.

The radio station "Prat" was occupied by two individuals who carried firearms and broadcast a message against President Augusto Pinochet's regime for a few minutes.

The attackers identified themselves as members of the MIR, a group considered "Marxist" and "extremist" by the regime.

Colombia

Official Comments on FARC Counterproposal

PA2309191288 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Report by Jesus Garzon on news conference with Government Minister Cesar Gaviria Trujillo—date and place not given]

[Text] The government today declined to give an opinion on the FARC document on the peace plan, describing it as an internal FARC document. During a news conference, Government Minister Cesar Gaviria Trujillo had the following comments on the guerrillas' document:

[Begin recording, in progress] [Reporter] ...Colombians?

[Gaviria Trujillo] Well, I would have to say, first of all, that there is no reason why the government should respond to internal FARC position papers. Since the document has these characteristics or scope, all I can do is give some views on the document and point out that everyone in the government is working on a major national agreement; I could add that it is basically an agreement on constitutional reforms.

The peace initiative specifically provides for an eventual participation of armed groups that accept this peace initiative. It is also intended to allow them to participate peacefully in this major national agreement after they have voluntarily expressed their willingness to join it. However, this is not an official response but only remarks on the document. [end recording]

Government Allows Governors To Talk With Rebels

PA2409194088 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1805 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] The Barco peace plan is under way. The government minister has instructed the governors to begin regional dialogues, although these regional dialogues will not be a substitute for a direct dialogue between the government and the rebels. Government Minister Cesar Gaviria Trujillo read the following communique on the government's decision:

[Begin recording] 1. Regional dialogues do not replace, but instead complement, the direct dialogue between the government and the armed groups, as defined in the peace initiative.

2. Because of its constitutional obligations, the government does not delegate its responsibility for direct dialogue with the guerrillas.

3. These dialogues represent a definite mechanism so civilian society, within the framework of democratic dialogue, can propose definite alternatives in the face of regional violence and can actively take part in a national reconciliation.

4. For the obligations and the agreements to be implemented by the government, the initiative should come from civilian society and its legitimate and representative spokesmen. [end recording]

Recent Actions by Subversive Groups Reported

PA2309183888 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 21 Sep 88 p 1

[Text] Two more members of our National Police killed, four kidnapped, and eight wounded is the presumed outcome of a new guerrilla offensive in Caqueta Department.

Elsewhere, guerrillas killed one soldier in Cauca during an ambush.

In less than 24 hours, guerrillas have killed nine National Police members and one soldier and "executed" six peasants who refused to collaborate with the ELN [Army of National Liberation] in Cesar and Santander.

The National Police General Directorate reported that a large column, presumably composed of members of the FARC's 15th Front, attacked the "Las Granjas" antinarcotics base on the outskirts of Florencia, along the road to Morelia, with rockets, fragmentation grenades, incendiary bombs, .50-caliber machineguns, and rifle fire.

It was also learned that a gunman killed a policeman south of Bogota.

EL SIGLO also reports that Lieutenant Martin Enrique Beltran of the National Police and agents Hernando de Jesus Ruiz Lopez and German Octavio Gonzalez were killed in the urban area of Puerto Asis, Putumayo as they were on their way to aid a wounded policeman. In another action, a joint column composed of members of the FARC's 8th Front attacked a police patrol in Playa Rica, Los Mangos, Argelia municipality in southwest Cauca Department.

Antioquia Areas Without Power

PA2509195388 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Sep 88

[Text] Fifteen municipalities and two corregimientos in western Antioquia have been without power for approximately 15 hours as a result of a terrorist attack. Members of the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board last night blew up two power transmission towers near Canas Gordas in Antioquia. Electricity will not be restored until Tuesday. Towns such as Apartado, Carepa, and Turbo are also without electricity.

Northern Coast Area Attacked

PA2509202288 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Sep 88

[Report by Mabel Morales] txt
[Text] The usual calm of the Colombian northern coast has been disturbed over the past few days. Two weeks ago, FARC's 19th and 41st fronts attacked Minca, Santa Marta, resulting in 15 policemen kidnapped and some 25 guerrillas arrested.

On Tuesday, what began as a civil protest in Rio Hacha—capital of La Guajira—over bad drinking water and sewage systems ended up in disturbances and rallies that affected private as well as government institutions. In this coal-producing area, some 3,000 angry community leaders, teachers, and area residents, answering their leaders' rallying cry, marched along Rio Hacha, causing disorder, throwing stones, and burning tires.

While some 50 people were arrested for breaking the law, two policemen sustained injuries. The authorities, specifically Governor Luis Felipe Ovalle and Mayor Jairo Aguilar Ocando—who had denied the permit to hold the demonstrations—deplored the incidents and pointed out that actions are being taken to resolve the public service problems expeditiously. At the same time, the governor and mayor asked the people to have common sense and wisdom and to defend the institutions.

At week's end, following a not very peaceful week in Colombia's Caribbean coastal area, there was an attack on Wednesday by a subversive group against Air Force Combat Unit No 3, near Barranquilla. The rebels clashed for 2 hours with the military and then escaped into the forest in Malambo and Santo Tomas municipalities. Caribbean military garrison commanders confirmed that subversive activities have begun to strike in this region, which the guerrillas formerly regarded as a remote and foreign region.

Paraguay

Delegation to IMF Meeting Leaves for Berlin

PY2309151388 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 23 Sep 88 p 15

[Text] The Paraguayan delegation to the annual IMF governors' meeting in West Berlin left Paraguay yesterday afternoon. Central Bank President Cesar Romeo Acosta, who will also be part of the delegation, has been in Berlin since Sunday, 18 September.

The delegation includes Finance Under Secretary Oscar Jacinto Obelar; National Development Bank President Julio M. Rejis Sanguinas; Epifanio Salcedo Caceres, Cattle Breeders Development Fund president; Carlos Alberto Knapps, member of the Central Bank executive board; and Tax Revenue Office Director Maximo Vazquez Ballena.

The members of the delegation disclosed before leaving that they will objectively describe the country's socioeconomic situation, marked by a recovery that is reflected in the positive behavior of the GDP.

New Political Movement Begun; Arrests Made

PY2409014588 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 23 Sep 88 p 8

[Text] Last night police detained eight young students, all of them members of the Paraguayan Democratic Movement [Movimiento Democratico Paraguayo—MDP], who were putting up posters announcing the launching of this new political group, which was scheduled for today.

It has been reported that the detained students were Fidel Fernandez, Juan Arrom, Lourdes Barboza, Gladys Gonzalez, Alberto Rodas, Walter Ortiz, Victor Schaerer, and Nancy Rolon.

At the time of publication, the detainees were still being held incommunicado, presumably at the Investigation Department.

It has also reported that Luis Sciacca, Aldo Vera, Cira Novara, Roque Vera, and Reinaldo Peralta, who were detained by policemen of the Investigation Department Police at a private home on the night of 21 September, are still being held incommunicado and that a lawyer has filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus on their behalf.

This morning, lawyer Alberto Alderete Priete has filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus on behalf of Fernandez, Arrom, Barboza, Gonzalez, Rodas, Ortiz, Schaerer, and Rolon, who were detained on the street. The courts will now send a note to the police requesting that these people be presented before a judge. Alderete Prieto's note states: "There has been no judicial order for their detention, and the country is not in a state of siege."

At 2000 tonight, the MDP will be officially launched at the Casa del Pueblo [Febrerista Revolutionary Party (PRF) headquarters]. The congress creating the MDP was held on 18 September.

MDP spokesmen have reported that a special meeting will be held at the PRF headquarters, where representatives of national political parties will deliver speeches. The meeting will be attended by representatives of various sectors of Paraguayan society and from abroad.

Group Established as Party

PY2509020088 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Sep 88 p 10

[Text] The People's Democratic Movement [Movimiento Democratico Popular], MDP, was officially established last night during a ceremony held at the Febrerista Revolutionary Party headquarters. The MDP described itself as an alternative for popular sectors. Present at the ceremony were about one hundred members of the new party and legislators and politicians from Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina.

MDP leader Mercedes Soler read a manifesto of the new political party. Soler said the MDP is a political alternative for popular sectors such as workers, poor peasants, Indians, settlers of shanty towns, women, youth, laymen, students, professionals, intellectuals, and "groups identified with MDP guidelines."

She added: "The MDP defines itself as a democratic, popular, national, and anti-imperialist political organization. Its historic goal is to again make Paraguay a free and democratic country."

Soler said to achieve this goal, the MDP will promote mobilizations, social and political organizations, civic training of popular sectors, and the recovery of popular culture to create our own identity. Later, Osmar Sostoa read the act officially establishing the MDP as a political party.

Peru

'Severe' Austerity Decree Issued by Government

PY2409164388 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Tonight the government decreed severe austerity measures that prohibit trips at the government's expense and the hiring or appointment of new personnel. All types of representational expenses will be reduced, as will the number of vehicles used by public officials. Public works construction that has not already begun will be suspended, and nonpriority public works not connected with education and health will also suffer large budget cuts.

The decree, signed tonight by President Alan Garcia, states that it is indispensable to establish austerity measures to reduce the public deficit as part of the economic measures to drastically curb inflation. Wage increases will not be allowed in any case, except for family allowances and cost of living increases authorized by the government.

No increases for lunch, transportation, or rations will be allowed no matter what their source of funding is. No overtime work will be authorized. Office chiefs must organize work shifts to serve the public or to increase the production of goods and services.

The purchase of passenger vehicles is prohibited, except for investment or production projects that are justified by the head of an autonomous agency—an agency with its own budget. In the central government, only the ministers and heads of autonomous agencies are authorized to use government cars. Security vehicles must be approved by the Interior Ministry. The government will provide fuel and lubricants only for ministers, heads of autonomous agencies, and essential services of each sector.

All heads of autonomous agencies will have 30 days to prepare a plan to sell nonessential government vehicles.

Budget allotments for purchasing and renting real estate, either in Peru or abroad, will be suspended. Trips to the interior of the Republic for work will have to be authorized by the head of an autonomous agency. Trips abroad will need prior approval by the Council of Ministers.

No awards or decorations may be given and no act of protocol or official celebration that could cause expense to the government, either directly or indirectly, may be held, except by the president of the Republic or the foreign minister. All expenses for commemorative public ceremonies will be suspended.

Only publications for giving instructions of each government office will allowed. Photographic material will be used only for essential services and state files.

Minister on Agriculture Accord, Shortages

PY2309122788 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1140 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Agriculture Minister Remigio Morales Bermudez has handed President Alan Garcia a document that seeks to promote agriculture and to reach an accord in the sector.

[Begin recording] [Morales] I have handed President Garcia the National Agricultural Accord, which was signed yesterday by 20 national organizations of agricultural producers. This document does not refer exclusively to circumstantial supply problems but to an entire economic program of production and agrarian policies. Such a document has been requested by the members of the Agrarian Council, who insisted that I present it to [words indistinct] chamber. This is why I sent Chamber of Deputies Chairman Hector Vargas Haya a note asking him to schedule a day and an hour for me to present this National Agricultural Accord to the Chamber of Deputies.

This accord has very important guidelines for future policies. I insist that, although the supply problem is politicized when there is speculation and shortages, as there are now, we must depoliticize the topics of guaranteed food for the people and of agrarian development.

I believe that these two topics are the basis of integrated national economic development, reaching from one border of the nation to the other, and that it is the basis of future industrialization and of the participation of the country.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Second reporter, interrupting] Yesterday, Prime Minister Guillermo Larco Cox revealed that there would be complementary measures, which could include the lifting of price controls.

[Morales] Look, I have not heard of such complementary measures or of the lifting of price controls. I want to emphasize what I repeated yesterday and the day before: I believe the reason for the shortage of edible vegetable oil, for example, and of powdered milk is speculation. We know that many truckloads of vegetable oil and some 700,000 or 1 million bags of powdered milk are distributed daily—60 percent of it in Lima and 30 percent for the Milk Glass Program, which is supported by us at the level of district and national mayoralties throughout the country. This distribution is not noticed at the markets because businessmen hold them back. These businessmen are waiting for price controls to be lifted. Unfortunately for the speculators, this will not occur.

I have requested a meeting with the mayor of the provincial council as soon as he comes back, and with all the district mayors, [words indistinct] although this is not a duty of the agriculture minister. The agricultural sector is responsible for producing in the fields and for registering the levels of production, which are, by the way, currently excellent. This production does not reach the markets because people are speculating in the hope of seeing the price controls lifted. [end recording]

The government has ordered that staples be sold directly to the public. (?Ensi) and (?Ecasa) trucks will be parked in 51 strategic locations of Lima to sell rice, oil, sugar, and milk, which are hard to obtain in common markets, (Carmicherino), executive director of the Special Project for Free Fairs, said.

Economy Minister, Delegation Depart for FRG

PY2409040388 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Today Peruvian Economy Minister Abel Salinas left for West Berlin heading the Peruvian delegation that will participate in the joint annual meeting of the World Bank and IMF governors. The delegations is made up of Deputy Finance Minister (Walter Reina Farge), Public Credit General Director (Guillermo Runsiman), Deputies Luis Heysen Zegarra and (Carlos Vivas Davila), and the presidents of the Reserve Central Bank and the State Bank Fund.

Deputies Praise General's Democracy Endorsement

PY2609140388 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Several party leaders have praised and voiced support for the statement made by Air General German Vucetich Zeballos, the chairman of the Armed Forces Joint Command, who has endorsed the people's sovereignty and the democratic system.

In a speech marking Armed Forces day last Saturday, Gen Vucetich said that the Armed Forces reiterate their full support for the people's sovereignty, the democratic system, and law and order.

Deputy Luis Alvarado Contreras has praised this statement. PPC [Popular Christian Party] Deputy Celso Sotomarino has said that this should be the stand of the Armed Forces, and AP [Popular Action] Deputy Aureo Zegarra said that the statement by Gen Vucetich reflects a responsible attitude that honors the tradition of the Armed Forces.

MRTA Claims Kidnapping of Retired General

PY2509022988 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0154 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Lima, 24 Sep (AFP)—Tonight Peruvian General Hector Jeri Garcia, who was kidnapped by the MRTA, issued a letter in which he states that he will be released only if authorities disclose the whereabouts of two missing MRTA members.

The letter, addressed by the MRTA to AFP offices in Lima, is a copy of the letter that was addressed to journalist Cesar Hildebrandt, who carried a report on Jeri's kidnapping during his Sunday television program.

In his letter Jeri states: I (?am) in poor health in a people's jail. Jeri, who is 69 years old, is a retired Air Force general. He was kidnapped on 7 July by the MRTA.

Jeri adds: It is necessary to disclose the whereabouts of MRTA members Miguel Pasache Vidal and Socrates Porta Secano so that my release can be negotiated. I am hereby reporting the disappearance of these two MRTA members.

On 20 September the ultra-rightist Rodrigo Franco Command claimd responsibility for the death of two Shining Path leaders Luis Pasache and Socrates Portales. They have similar names to those supplied by Jeri, but the police have not yet specified whether they are the same people.

In his letter to Hildebrandt, Jeri states: "I demand that you cease making further provocations which endanger my life and hinder negotiations for my liberation."

The letter states that in one of the incidents, Hildebrandt suggested that Jeri's relatives not pay the ransom.

'Rightist' Group Claims Attack on Lawyer's House

PY2409185588 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1733 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Ayacucho (Peru), 23 Sep (EFE)—Two bomb attacks early this morning damaged the house and office of the deputy chairman of the Bar Association in this city, Mario Cavalcanti, who was also threatened with death by a rightist command.

The explosions caused considerable damage to the lawyer's house, and his automobile, which was parked at the door of the house, was destroyed.

On the walls of Cavalcanti's office the Domingo [as received] Franco Guerra Command painted a slogan claiming responsibility for the attack and indicating that if the lawyer continues defending those accused of terrorism, he will be eliminated.

This command first appeared in Lima on 28 July, claiming responsibility for the murder of lawyer Manuel Febres, defender of Osman Morote, considered the number two man in the Shining Path terrorist guerrilla movement. Morote is facing trial in Lima.

Cesar Prado, chairman of the Ayacucho Bar Association, has condemned the attacks carried out this morning, at a 40-minute interval. Prado also denounced the intimidatory nature of the attacks.

The Rodrigo Franco Guerra Command, which has also claimed the murder of two alleged members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) in the town of Canete, Lima Department, has already committed other criminal actions in Ayacucho.

Considered an ultrarightist terrorist organization, this command had dynamited the tomb in Ayacucho of Edith Lagos, Shining Path leader, who was killed by the police a few years ago.

The Rodrigo Franco Command has reported that for each government authority that is murdered by terrorists, two subversives will be killed.

Alleged Terrorists Kill Policeman in Lima

PY2509005688 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1949 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Lima, 24 Sep (EFE)—Officials of Lima's civilian government have reported that members of the Shining Path guerrilla group allegedly killed a member of the Civil Guard in Lima this morning.

According to the report, the policeman was returning home after work when a group of Shining Path terrorists shot him down on the street.

The murder took place on the 17th block of Loreto Street, in Brena district. The unfortunate policeman died a few minutes after being hospitalized.

Terrorists Dynamite Machinery Near Pisco

PY2309152688 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Report by Jesdus Diaz from Pisco]

[Text] Last night in San Clemente District, 9 km north of Pisco, a group of terrorists dynamited machinery belonging to Albolones Peruanos, Inc.

Approximately 20 terrorists barged into the plant armed with submachineguns and Molotov cocktails and overpowered some 20 workers in order to dynamite some machinery. After doing so, the terrorists fled from the site.

Members of the security forces responded and asked for support from the city of Ica.